

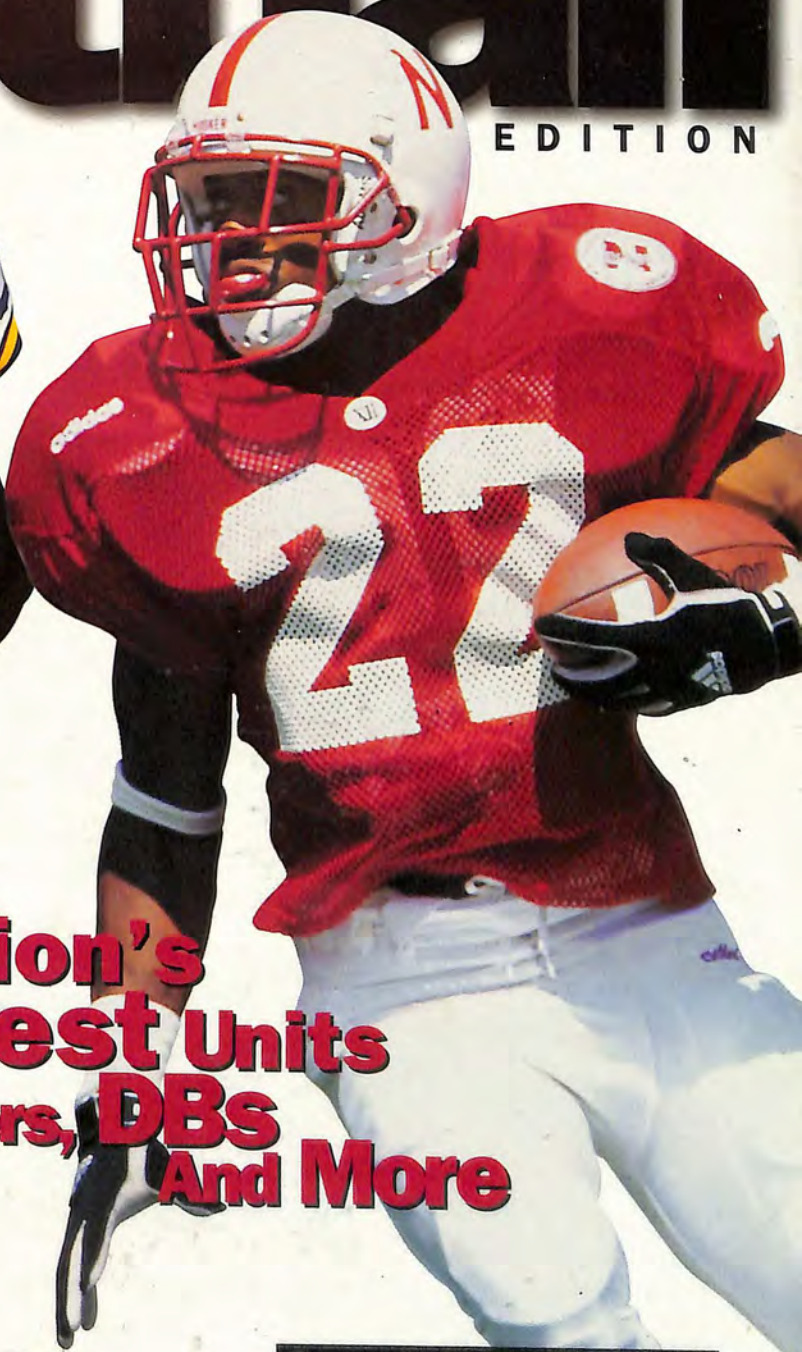
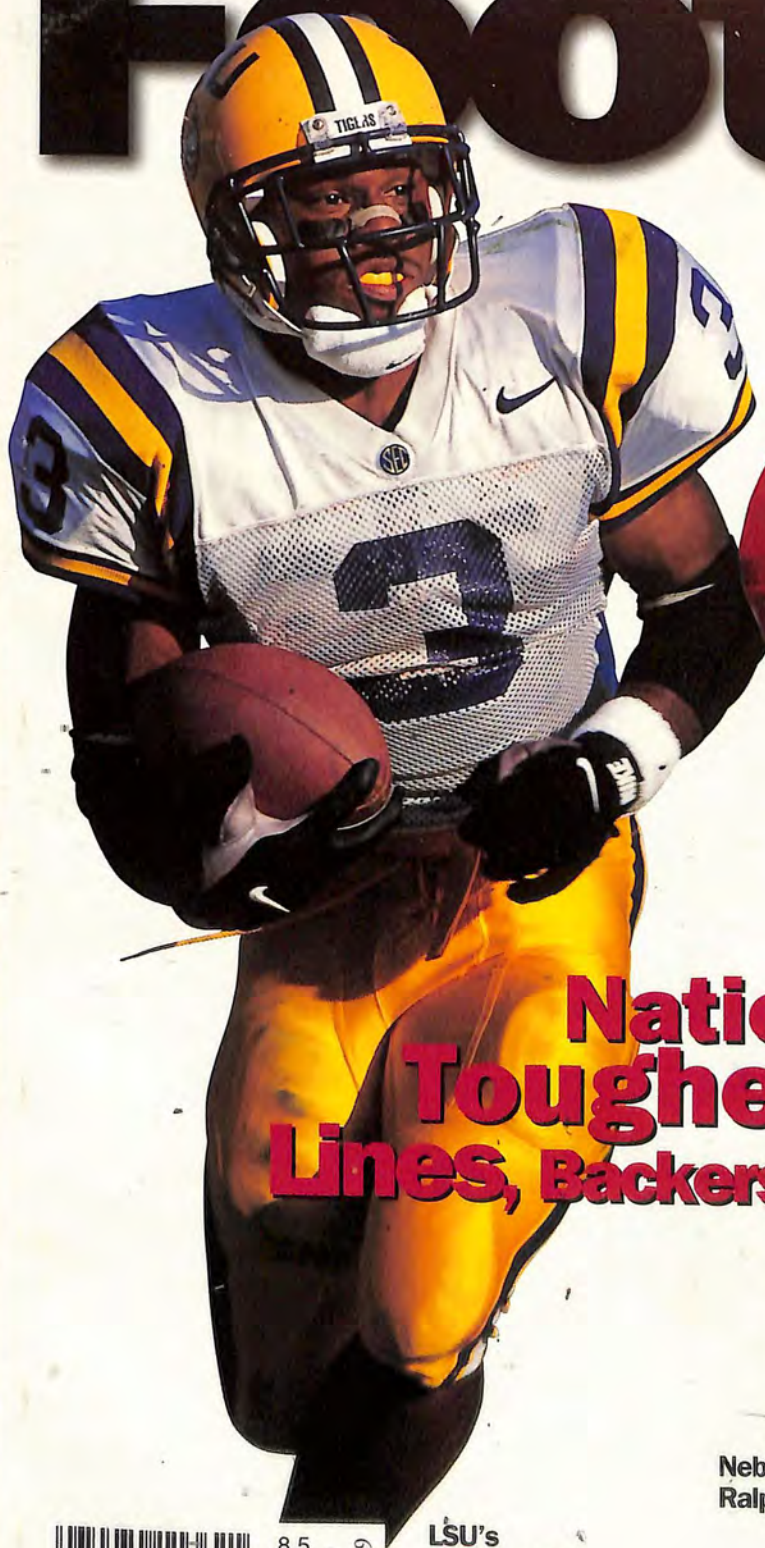
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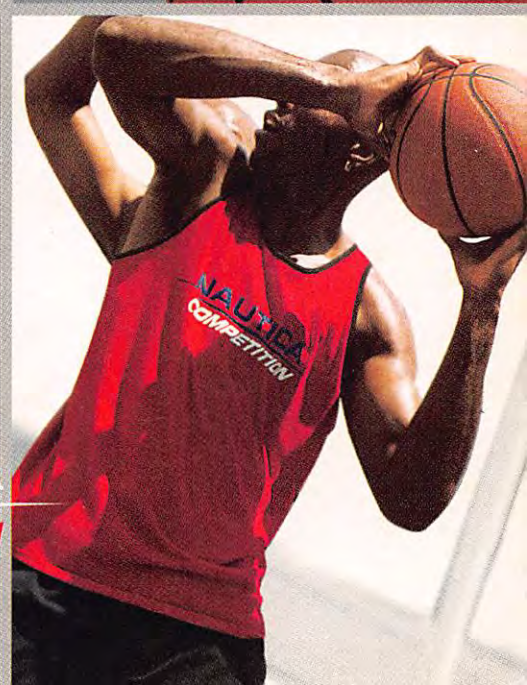
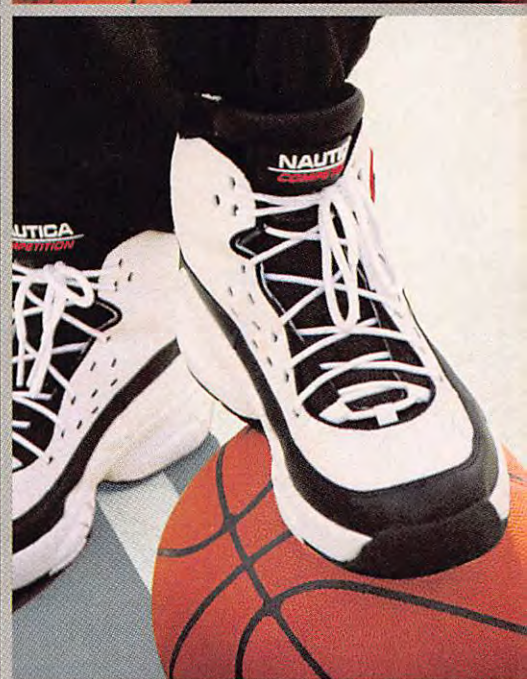
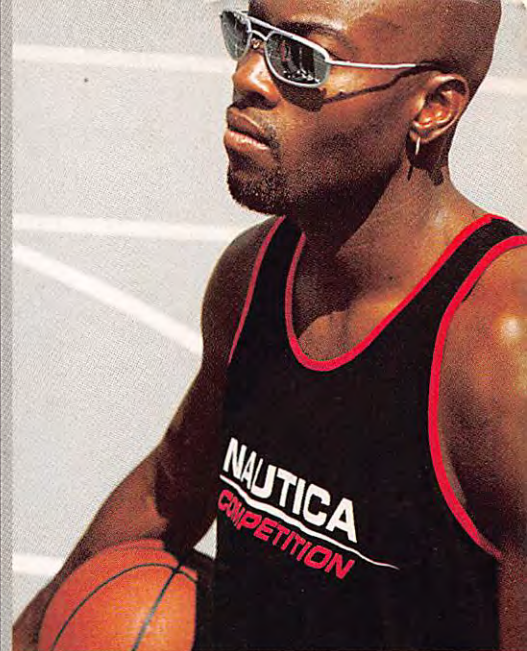
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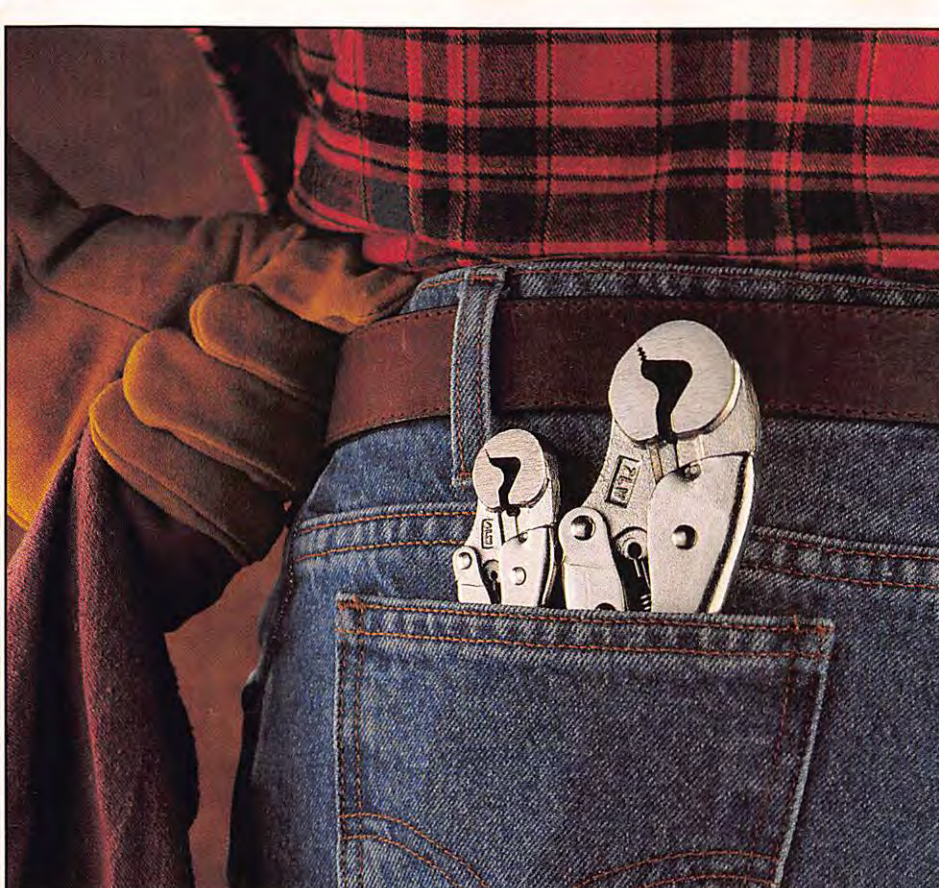
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# editor's letter

**M**uch is made over predictions for national champions. And rightfully so. Friends, fans, family members all begin asking me in February, "Who's *Athlon's* No. 1 this season?" I have yet to hear inquiries about No. 112.

Well, it's time the underlings of the college football world were given their due. Over the last three years, *Athlon* has ranked all Division I-A teams from first to last. In 1995, Ohio was picked No. 108; in '96 the last team ranked was Idaho at 111; last year it was New Mexico State at 112. This season? Why, Eastern Michigan is the team of choice (or default) at No. 112.

How have these underdogs responded the last few years? Well, we looked it up. In 1995, Ohio (2-8-1) edged Kent (1-9-1, and ranked No. 105) for ninth place in the Mid-American Conference.

Idaho finished 6-5 in 1996, but just 3-4 vs. I-A competition. Still good enough to climb out of the cellar. Last season, New Mexico State almost came through for us, but won two games, defeating Cal State-Northridge and Arkansas State, which was 2-9, but winless vs. I-A teams. Northern Illinois, a team we tabbed at No. 111, completed the season unblemished at 0-11.

What does that say about this season and Eastern Michigan's hopes? Perhaps the Eagles can win two or three games and maybe even escape a triple-digit ranking.

For those few who are wondering how *Athlon* No. 1 teams have fared, we looked that up too. In 1995 we said Florida State appeared to be the best team. The Seminoles finished fourth behind Nebraska, which began at No. 5 in the *Athlon* poll. The following year Florida jumped from a No. 6 pre-season ranking after defeating Peyton Manning's Tennessee team, and *Athlon's* No. 1, in September, knocking the Vols down to No. 9.

Last season a few key injuries cost Washington a shot to please the *Athlon* editors and dropped them all the way to No. 18. Nebraska and Michigan were No. 6 and 16, respectively, to begin the year.

At this rate, indications are that Ohio State will cross the wire at about 36th. We hope not. A good friend of mine is an Ohio State alum and he may never speak to me again.

Does all this really mean anything? Probably not, just food

for hungry college football fans until the main course is served in the fall.

One of the best indications of what's in store this season in terms of predictions is to break down the individual units of each team. Malcolm Moran of the *Chicago Tribune* has aided our search for the best units in college football. Beginning on

page 12, we've identified the top five backfields, receiving units, offensive and defensive lines, secondaries, linebacking corps and special teams.

As you would expect, everything you need to get a head start on the season can be found in the following pages. Complete schedules, predictions, recruiting analysis, Division I-AA report and analyses and depth charts for all 112 Division I-A teams plus photos of the pageantry of college football are all inside.

Enjoy the magazine and let us know your predictions. But please, send them to us in August, not next January.

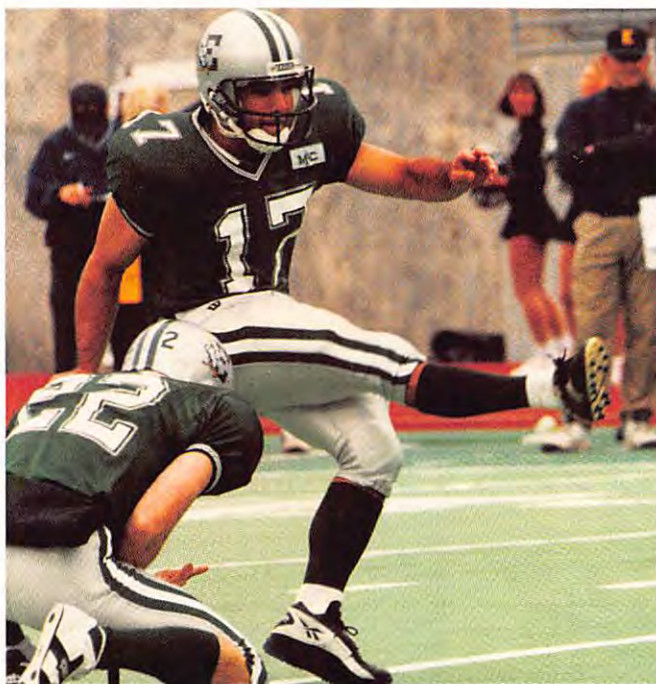
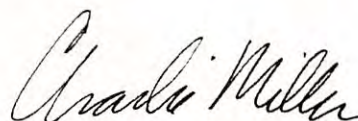
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We hope to hear from you.

As a final, personal note, I want to express a word of thanks to a colleague of 10 years, George Leonard. George was editor at *Athlon* from 1981 until last January. The insight and experience George offered our staff, and shared with me personally since 1986, has benefitted all of us and helped us enjoy the work we do.

Thanks, George. I wish you a happy, healthy retirement.



Justin Ventura will try to kick the Eastern Michigan Eagles out of 112th place on the *Athlon* preseason list.

Eastern Michigan



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# Football



## 12 Position by Position

Championship teams are built piece by piece. *Athlon* selects the best singular units in college football.

by Malcolm Moran

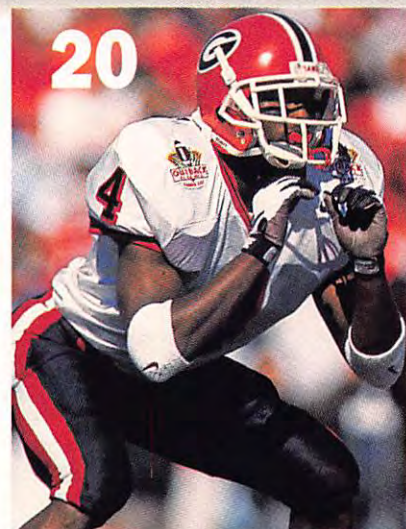
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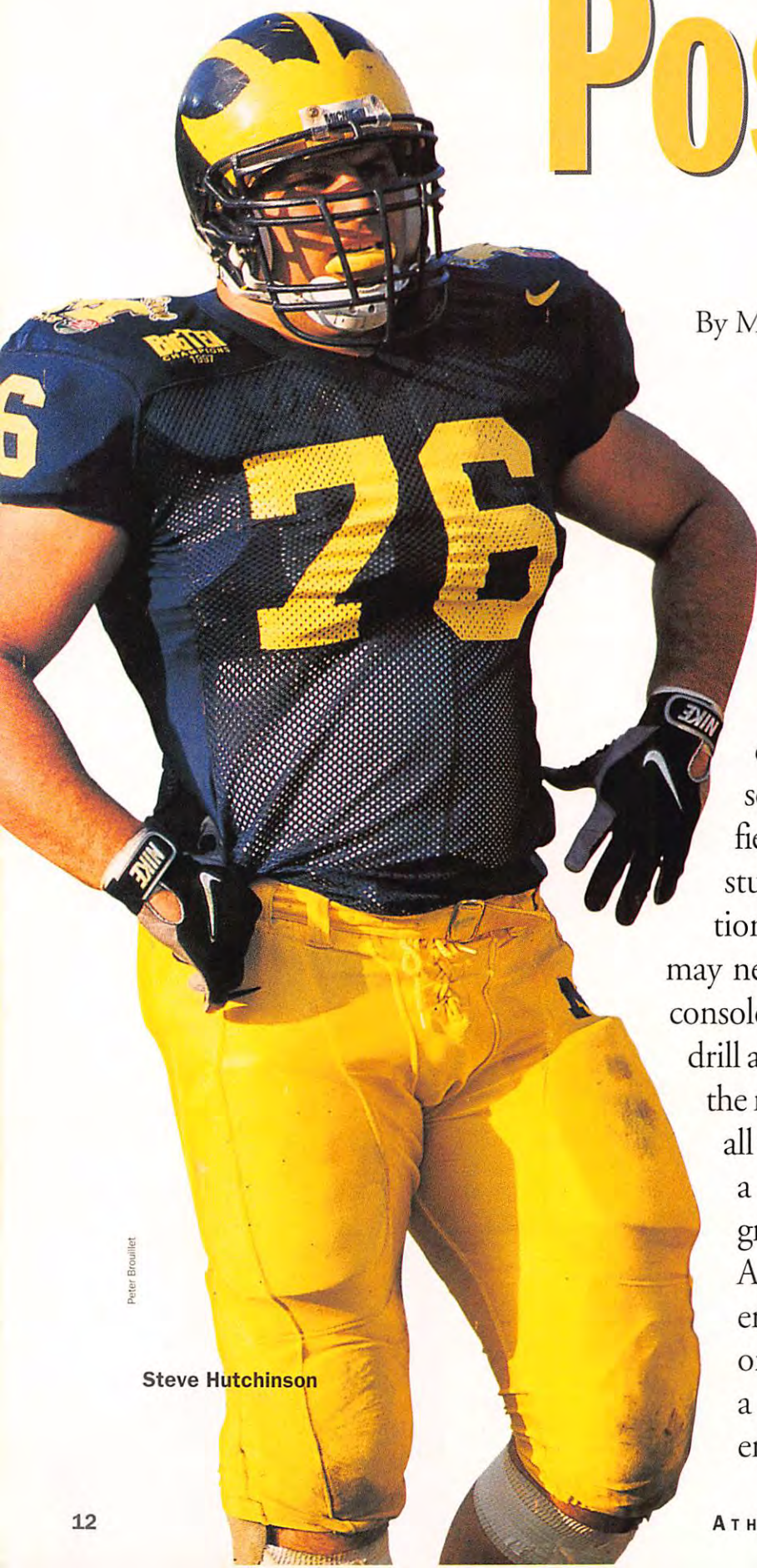




# Position

By Malcolm Moran, *Chicago Tribune*

On Saturday afternoons the players stand together on a sideline, representing a school, a town, even a state. For so much of the rest of the week—for much of their football lives—they are divided into small groups that occupy darkened rooms and separate corners of the practice field. The members of the groups study tapes. They listen to position coaches say things the fans may never hear. They challenge and console one another and run isolated drill after drill, honing their skills. In the most successful programs, with all those position units playing as a team, the whole is indeed greater than the sum of the parts. Among the elite, the level of talent, or experience, or cohesion, or all three, can be so great that a single unit can help carry an entire team to New Year's Day.



Peter Brouillet

Steve Hutchinson



# by Position

## Football's Toughest Units

The problem is that it has never been harder to identify those units than it is today. Michigan's defensive backfield should remain among the best in the nation, but what if the Wolverines had a returning Heisman Trophy winner lining up at cornerback? Charles Woodson's early departure renders an evaluation hazy at best.

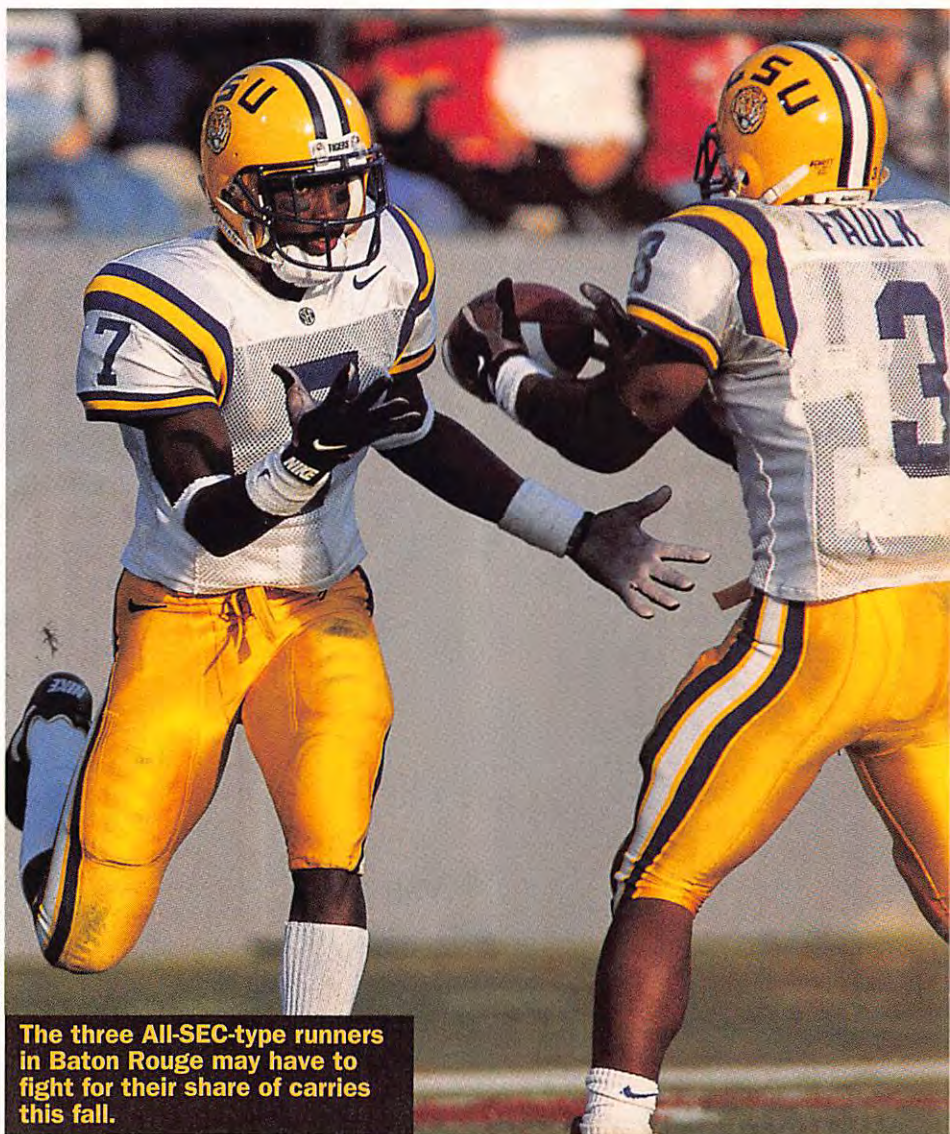
A Penn State offensive backfield with Curtis Enis, or a Nebraska backfield with Ahman Green, would compete with anyone. Washington's offensive line, with Benji Olson and Olin Kreutz, would attract national attention. Without them, the Huskies have work to do.

But that work can be done. A year ago at this point, the state of Michigan's offensive line was improving from chaotic to cautiously optimistic, and that required an enormous step.

Jeff Backus, the left tackle, had missed spring practice because of a ruptured appendix. Steve Hutchinson, the left guard, had been a defensive player in 1996. Chris Ziemann, the right guard, was a defensive player until the day before spring practice in 1997, when Terry Malone, the new offensive line coach, made an appeal for reinforcements. Malone, who had been out of work and considering a future out of football, was hoping to gain good players. But he was willing to settle for warm bodies.

You know the rest. The Wolverine offensive line, at the start of the season, was widely perceived as a weak link. Yet from the start, against a Colorado team that had already played a game, Michigan's unit displayed an ability to thrive, which would have been difficult to imagine in the spring. The line gave Brian Griese the chance to become a dependable quarterback, and created the stability Michigan required to develop a balanced approach. By season's end, in the sunshine of Pasadena on New Year's Day, the unit had become an essential part of a Rose Bowl champion.

The rapid changes from year to year are reflected in several conspicuous absences. Do not look for Penn State linebackers on this



**The three All-SEC-type runners in Baton Rouge may have to fight for their share of carries this fall.**

list, or Nebraska offensive linemen, or Florida receivers. Scholarship restrictions and early exits spread parity and remind us each year that there are fewer safe assumptions and fewer staples to count on.

We are left with several once-unthinkable possibilities. Ohio State's receivers? Florida's defensive line? Kansas State's linebackers? In an era of rapid changes, such novelties blend with traditional strengths such as Michigan's

offensive line and Ohio State's defensive backfield.

Michigan offers the most recent example of how surprises can take place in those meeting rooms, if singleness of purpose is combined with the right portions of health and good fortune. The work will resume before the 1998 season begins, when teams are broken down from coast to coast, unit by unit. Week by week, the picture will come into focus.



## OFFENSIVE BACKFIELD

1. **LSU**
2. **Texas A&M**
3. **Kansas State**
4. **Colorado State**
5. **Georgia Tech**

From the moment Gerry DiNardo became the LSU coach, Kevin Faulk came to represent the Tiger program, and that has not changed. Faulk's decision to return for his senior season gives LSU the stability that DiNardo seeks. Faulk's ability to avoid the kind of off-field problems he has had in the past would be a sign that the program's best player is paying attention to the coach.

Then there are the numbers. Faulk has the ability to produce at the highest level. A healthy season would give Faulk the chance to gain the 1,026 yards he needs to surpass Herschel Walker's Southeastern Conference career record of 5,749 all-purpose yards.

DiNardo's successful recruitment of Faulk

became the foundation of credibility that the coach needed. By now, though, Faulk's presence is just the beginning of the talent the Tigers have assembled.

Rondell Mealey, who possesses the ability to be a featured back at many Division I schools, punished Notre Dame in a 222-yard Independence Bowl performance. Cecil Collins, given an opportunity at the start of last season when Faulk pulled a hamstring, made an instant impact by gaining 172 yards against Mississippi State and 232 against Auburn, the most ever by a Tiger back in an SEC game. Herb Tyler, who runs and passes with equal aplomb, is an important ingredient in the Bayou Bengals' backfield mix. Intense expectations in Baton Rouge will demand greater consistency from him.

After being removed from the starting lineup for one game by R.C. Slocum, Texas A&M quarterback Brannndon Stewart returned with renewed vigor and determination. Stewart's challenge is the same as Tyler's: enough hand-offs in the course of one game for three first-rate running backs — D'Andre Hardeman, Dante Hall and Sirr Parker.



**Michigan's tough offensive line led by Jon Jansen (77), Jeff Backus (79) and Steve Hutchinson, jelled during the national championship season and should be even better in '98.**



## OFFENSIVE LINE

1. **Michigan**
2. **West Virginia**
3. **Wisconsin**
4. **Florida**
5. **Tennessee**

The list of outstanding offensive lines this season may be deeper than anything you will find at any other position. A season after Michigan offensive line coach Terry Malone went looking for reinforcements just to get through spring practice, the Wolverines will face a different challenge this season,

one that the home team in Michigan Stadium has not confronted for decades — defending a national title.

Tackle Jeff Backus and guards Steve Hutchinson and Chris Ziemann will return as veterans, joining All-Big Ten tackle Jon Jansen, a starter for the fourth season. Zach Adami's old center position is expected to be occupied by Steve Frazier or David Brandt. The emphasis this year will be on leadership, with the quarterback situation again uncertain and younger running backs moving into more prominent roles.

Of the four returning starters in the West

Virginia offensive line, two of them — tackle Solomon Page and center Eric De Groh — were All-Big East in 1997, and Page is All-America caliber. With guards Bryan Pukenas and Randy Dunnigan also back in '98, Mountaineer tailback Amos Zereoue will find room to run and quarterback Marc Bulger will have time to find his receivers — and they are good ones.

## RECEIVERS

1. **Ohio State**
2. **Florida State**
3. **Arizona State**
4. **Southern California**
5. **West Virginia**



**Ohio State's David Boston works well in traffic.**





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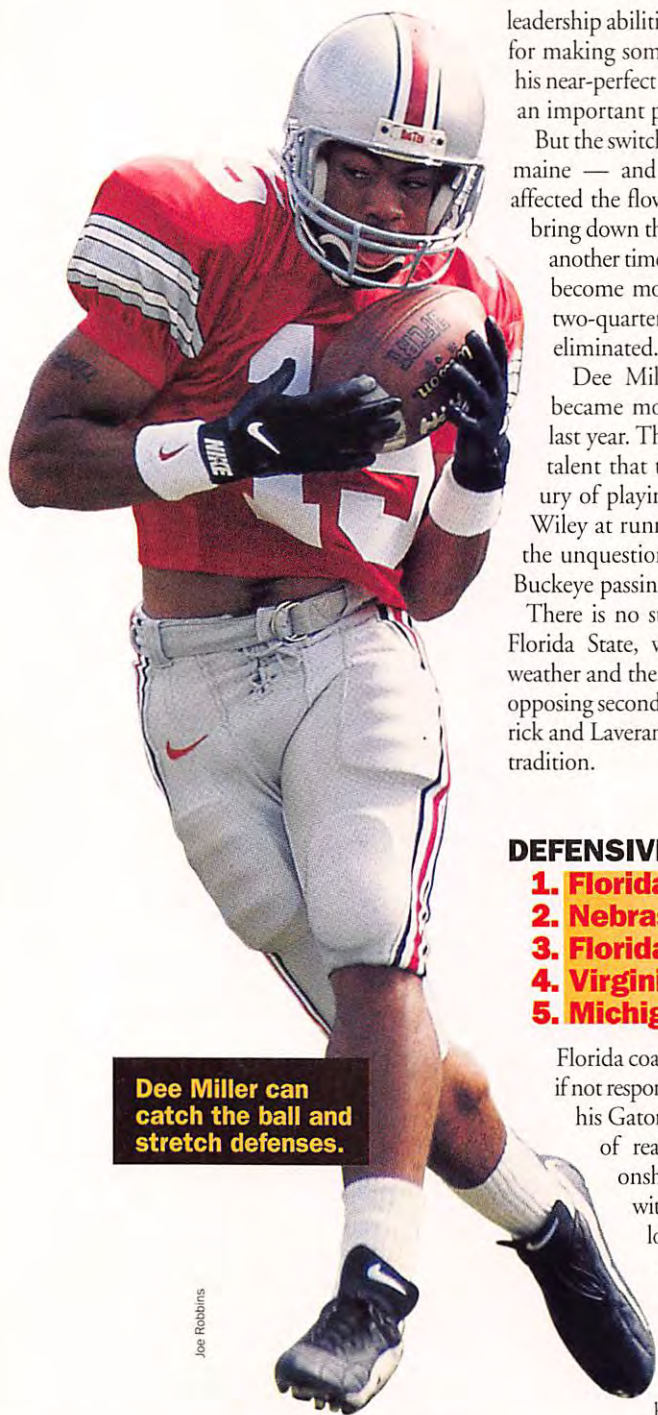
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**Dee Miller can catch the ball and stretch defenses.**

Joe Robbins

Somewhere far, far away, where satellite dishes can only pick up Buckeye football games, all the stadiums are Horseshoe-shaped, and receivers exist only for blocking purposes, Woody Hayes is chewing on chains, 10 yards at a time. Ohio State? Receivers? Woody wants to know: Is this some kind of joke?

Let's not forget that if not for the passing game developed under John Cooper's watch, the Buckeyes would not have won the Rose Bowl two seasons ago. David Boston began to make a contribution two years ago, during his freshman season. Stanley Jackson's rare

leadership abilities at quarterback, his knack for making something out of nothing and his near-perfect record as a starter made him an important part of Ohio State's success.

But the switches from Jackson to Joe Germaine — and sometimes back again — affected the flow of the offense and helped bring down the Buckeyes at Michigan yet another time. The passing game can only become more consistent now that the two-quarterback distraction has been eliminated.

Dee Miller and Ken-Yon Rambo became more important contributors last year. The group possesses so much talent that the Buckeyes have the luxury of playing former receiver Michael Wiley at running back. With Germaine the unquestioned starter this season, the Buckeye passing game will flourish.

There is no such question of identity at Florida State, which has used the warm weather and the state's talent pool to exploit opposing secondaries for decades. Peter Warlick and Laveranues Coles will continue the tradition.

## DEFENSIVE LINE

1. Florida
2. Nebraska
3. Florida State
4. Virginia
5. Michigan State

Florida coach Steve Spurrier is nothing if not responsive. Three seasons ago, after his Gators experienced the giddiness of reaching a national championship game, they had to deal with the humiliation of a 62-24 loss to Nebraska with the whole country watching.

Much of that was not their fault, just the unfortunate circumstance of being in the wrong place at the wrong time, against the wrong team. But when the emotions and embarrassment were stripped away, the Gators were found lacking up front.

No more. Florida may not have won an SEC championship last season, but one of

**Florida's Willie Cohens is an imposing obstacle to run around or throw over.**



**Gator Tim Beauchamp is strong enough to stuff the run and agile enough to scare quarterbacks into mistakes.**

Steve Woltmann

the lasting memories of the year was the pressure the Gators placed on Tennessee quarterback Peyton Manning. Tackles Ed Chester and Reggie McGrew provide a push up the middle that can separate the good teams from the very good. Tim Beauchamp and Willie Cohens bring experience to the outside.

Few teams could respond so quickly to the losses Nebraska has faced. Jason Peter and Grant Wistrom became cornerstones of the Cornhusker defenses of the past few years, as much for their leadership as for their outstanding play. But seniors Chad Kelsay and Mike Rucker, who alternated at end opposite Wistrom last year, appear prepared to take on more responsibility. Jason Wiltz, another senior, started 11 games at tackle last year.



Steve Woltmann



When the grass  
is greener  
on the other side  
of the fence,  
it may be that they  
take better care  
of it there.

— Cecil Selig



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## LINEBACKERS

1. **Kansas State**
2. **Ohio State**
3. **Maryland**
4. **Texas A&M**
5. **Michigan**

There is no way to appreciate the climb that Kansas State has made from the depths the Wildcats once occupied to where they're sitting now. Here is one attempt at a measurement. Think of the schools that are not on the list, schools such as Penn State and Miami, with alumni roaming the NFL.

Now look at the front of the line, the place currently held by Jeff Kelly, Travis Ochs and Mark Simoneau. Kansas State's linebackers will succeed within the context of an outstanding overall defense, between the experience of the line and secondary. None of them enjoys the name recognition of Ohio State's Andy Katzenmoyer, who could make use of goal-line situations at fullback and Charles Woodson's unprecedented defensive Heisman to make a run at the award.

One more advantage for Katzenmoyer — television loves him. He would seem to have a chance to become the first player to make the All-Madden team before he even gets to

the NFL. If the Buckeyes can remain No. 1 deep into November and find a way to get past Michigan's enormous psychological advantage in the rivalry, Katzenmoyer may have a Heisman chance if enough voters use the best-player-on-the-best-team formula.

Surely, there will be no shortage of isolated replays, down after down, that will be repeated late each Saturday night. Sprinkle in a little



**The Backers Take Manhattan: Travis Ochs (50), Mark Simoneau (42) and Jeff Kelly are a nightmare times three for running backs.**

grass stuck in his face mask, a couple of big hits, such as the one against Missouri last season, and a handful of touchdowns — maybe one against Michigan — and don't be surprised if Katzenmoyer is sitting in New York in early December.

## DEFENSIVE BACKFIELD

1. **Ohio State**
2. **Michigan**
3. **West Virginia**
4. **Southern California**
5. **Georgia**

At several points in that chilled, gray Saturday in Ann Arbor last November, Antoine Winfield of Ohio State delivered hits with such force that he inspired the same thought again and again.

Even now that we know a Heisman Trophy was won that afternoon, the memory of Winfield standing Wolverine running backs straight up still inspires the question: Was Charles Woodson the best cornerback on the field?

And even now, here's a plausible answer. Maybe not.

This year, with Woodson having moved on,

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Joe Robbins (2)

**Safeties Antoine Winfield (11) and Damon Moore (13) are big hitters and ball hawks for the Buckeyes.**

the question becomes much simpler. The Buckeyes have experience at each position, with Ahmed Plummer at the other cornerback spot and Gary Berry and Damon Moore at the safeties.

Don't overlook the Wolverines, who can compensate for the loss of Woodson with a remarkable depth of talent. Marcus Ray was recognized for his leadership in the Michigan secondary, but did not receive enough credit for his ability. Andre Weathers often operated in anonymity as The Other Corner; that will not be a problem this season. William Peterson, a potential starter, became an important part of Michigan's passing-down package last season.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

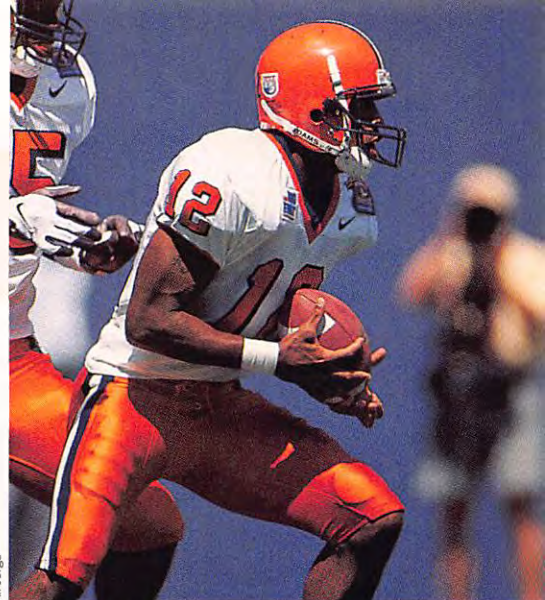
1. Syracuse
2. Kansas State
3. UCLA
4. Tulane
5. Miami

The dominant tradition at Syracuse was once the passing on of No. 44, from players such as Jim Brown, Ernie Davis and Floyd Little.

That tradition lives on, but another one has become just as strong in recent years: one of special teams excellence. Speedsters Quinton Spotwood and Kevin Johnson have continued to give the Syracuse return units game-breaking possibilities.

Spotwood's four punt return touchdowns tied a NCAA record last season. Johnson averaged 36.7 yards on kickoff returns, two of which went for touchdowns.

Martin Gramatica returns to Kansas State to defend his Lou Groza Award, presented to the top kicker in the nation, after a season in which he made 19-of-20 field goal attempts.



All Jorge

**Kevin Johnson teams with Quinton Spotwood to maintain a tradition of speed and big-play ability on the Syracuse special teams.**

Returning kicker Chris Sailer of UCLA deserves special mention as a key double threat; he made 19-of-24 field goal attempts and punted for a 43.6-yard average for the Bruins.

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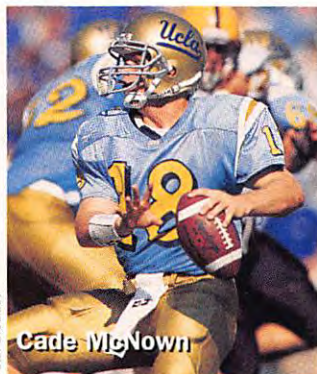
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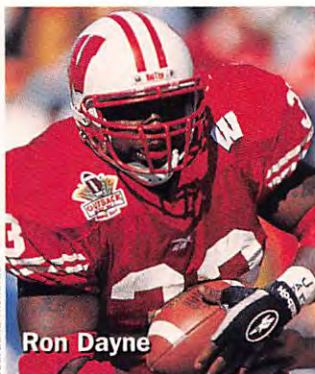
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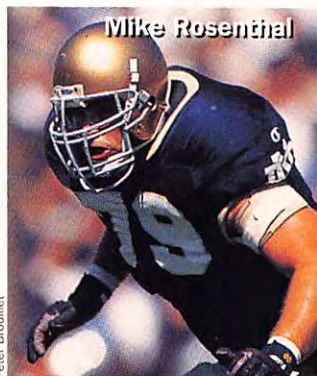
# Athlon's 1998 All-America TEAM



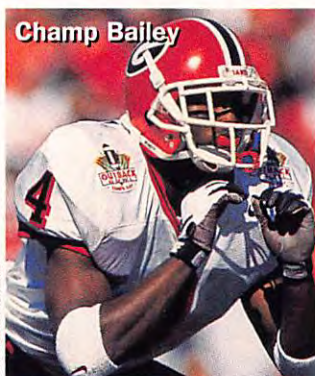
Cade McNown



Ron Dayne



Mike Rosenthal



Champ Bailey

## First Team All-America

### OFFENSE

WR	David Boston	6-3	205	Jr.	Ohio State
WR	Peter Warrick	6-0	190	Jr.	Florida State
TE	Jerame Tuman	6-5	249	Jr.	Michigan
OL	Grey Ruegamer	6-5	304	Sr.	Arizona St.
OL	Anthony Cesario	6-6	310	Sr.	Colorado St.
OL	Jamar Nesbit	6-5	320	Sr.	South Carolina
OL	Matt Stinchcomb	6-6	285	Sr.	Georgia
OL	Mike Rosenthal	6-7	315	Sr.	Notre Dame
QB	Cade McNown	6-1	215	Sr.	UCLA
RB	Ricky Williams	6-0	225	Sr.	Texas
RB	Ron Dayne	5-10	258	Jr.	Wisconsin

### DEFENSE

DL	Jared DeVries	6-4	275	Sr.	Iowa
DL	Robaire Smith	6-5	264	Jr.	Michigan St.
DL	Jimmy Brumbaugh	6-1	286	Sr.	Auburn
DL	Montae Reagor	6-2	254	Sr.	Texas Tech
LB	Andy Katzenmoyer	6-4	260	Jr.	Ohio State
LB	Dat Nguyen	6-0	216	Sr.	Texas A&M
LB	Gary Stills	6-2	235	Sr.	West Virginia
DB	Dré Bly	5-10	190	Jr.	North Carolina
DB	Champ Bailey	6-1	186	Jr.	Georgia
DB	Larry Atkins	6-4	222	Sr.	UCLA
DB	Antoine Winfield	5-9	180	Sr.	Ohio State

### SPECIALISTS

KR	Kevin Johnson	5-11	184	Sr.	Syracuse
PR	Tinker Keck	6-1	203	Sr.	Cincinnati
K	Martin Gramatica	5-9	170	Sr.	Kansas State
P	Chris Sailer	5-10	200	Sr.	UCLA

## Second Team All-America

### OFFENSE

WR	Troy Edwards	5-10	200	Jr.	Louisiana Tech
WR	R. Jay Soward	5-11	175	Jr.	USC
TE	Rufus French	6-4	245	Jr.	Mississippi
OL	Tony Coats	6-7	300	Sr.	Washington
OL	Solomon Page	6-6	300	Jr.	West Virginia
OL	Derek Smith	6-6	309	Sr.	Virginia Tech
OL	Jon Jansen	6-7	299	Jr.	Michigan
OL	Jeno James	6-4	298	Jr.	Auburn
QB	Tim Couch	6-5	223	Jr.	Kentucky
RB	Amos Zereoue	5-10	200	Jr.	West Virginia
RB	Sedrick Irvin	6-0	223	Jr.	Michigan State

### DEFENSE

DL	John Thornton	6-3	300	Sr.	West Virginia
DL	Adewale Ogunleye	6-4	260	Jr.	Indiana
DL	Darren Howard	6-4	240	Jr.	Kansas State
DL	Jevon Kearse	6-5	254	Jr.	Florida
LB	Chris Claiborne	6-3	250	Jr.	USC
LB	Sam Sword	6-2	242	Jr.	Michigan
LB	Jeff Kelly	6-0	245	Sr.	Kansas State
DB	Marcus Ray	6-0	210	Jr.	Michigan
DB	Arturo Freeman	6-1	197	Sr.	South Carolina
DB	Anthony Poindexter	6-1	220	Sr.	Virginia
DB	Ralph Brown	5-9	180	Jr.	Nebraska

### SPECIALISTS

KR	Ben Kelly	5-10	175	So.	Colorado
PR	Quinton Spotwood	5-11	178	Jr.	Syracuse
K	Brad Palazzo	5-11	185	Sr.	Tulane
P	John Baker	6-3	207	Jr.	North Texas

## Third Team All-America

### OFFENSE

WR	Craig Yeast	5-9	171	Sr.	Kentucky
WR	Torry Holt	6-1	193	Sr.	NC State
TE	Derrick Spiller	6-3	240	Sr.	Texas A&M
OL	Brandon Burlsworth	6-3	301	Sr.	Arkansas
OL	Craig Page	6-3	288	Sr.	Georgia Tech
OL	Todd Frohbieter	6-6	325	Sr.	Arkansas State
OL	Ryan Young	6-6	330	Sr.	Kansas State
OL	Rob Murphy	6-5	300	Jr.	Ohio State
QB	Brock Huard	6-5	220	Jr.	Washington
RB	Kevin Faulk	5-10	192	Sr.	LSU
RB	Jamal Lewis	6-1	225	So.	Tennessee

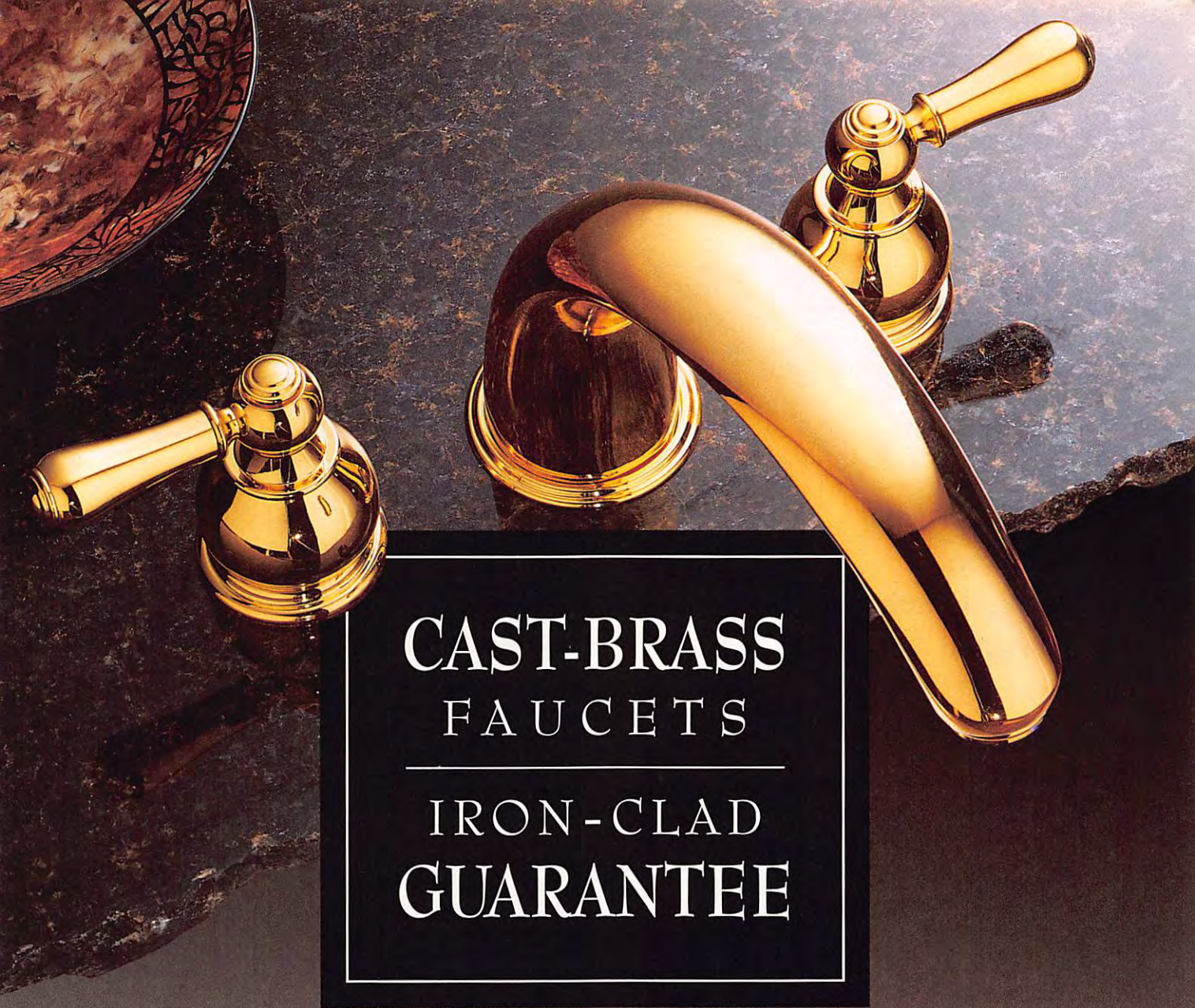
### DEFENSE

DL	Josh Williams	6-3	271	So.	Michigan
DL	Ed Chester	6-4	283	Sr.	Florida
DL	Rosevelt Colvin	6-3	245	Sr.	Purdue
DL	Antonio Dingle	6-3	302	Sr.	Virginia
LB	Eric Barton	6-3	226	Sr.	Maryland
LB	Peter Sirmon	6-2	246	Jr.	Oregon
LB	Mark Simoneau	6-0	230	Jr.	Kansas State
DB	Antwan Edwards	6-1	210	Sr.	Clemson
DB	Teako Brown	5-11	197	Sr.	Florida
DB	Pierson Prioleau	5-10	191	Sr.	Virginia Tech
DB	Chris McAlister	6-2	185	Sr.	Arizona

### SPECIALISTS

KR	Ketric Sanford	5-10	200	Jr.	Houston
PR	Troy Walters	5-8	170	Sr.	Stanford
K	Shayne Graham	5-11	196	Jr.	Virginia Tech
P	Shane Lechler	6-2	220	Jr.	Texas A&M





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# conference predictions

## ACC

### Predicted

### Order of Finish

1. Florida State
2. Virginia
3. North Carolina
4. Clemson
5. Georgia Tech
6. Maryland
7. N.C. State
8. Wake Forest
9. Duke

### Preseason All-ACC Team

#### OFFENSE

WR Peter Warrick	6-0	190	Jr.	Florida State
WR Torry Holt	6-1	193	Sr.	N.C. State
TE Joe Zelenka	6-5	270	Sr.	Wake Forest
OL Craig Page	6-3	288	Sr.	Georgia Tech
OL Holland Postell	6-6	300	Sr.	Clemson
OL John Feugill	6-7	299	Sr.	Maryland
OL Jason Whitaker	6-5	285	Jr.	Florida State
OL Donald Heaven	6-5	305	So.	Florida State
QB Aaron Brooks	6-4	198	Sr.	Virginia
RB Travis Minor	6-1	190	So.	Florida State
RB Thomas Jones	5-10	199	Jr.	Virginia

#### DEFENSE

DL Antonio Dingle	6-3	302	Sr.	Virginia
DL Chris Combs	6-6	270	Jr.	Duke
DL Jesse Tarplin	6-3	250	Sr.	Georgia Tech
DL Jerry Johnson	6-2	280	Jr.	Florida State
LB Eric Barton	6-3	226	Sr.	Maryland
LB Dustin Lyman	6-4	248	Jr.	Wake Forest
LB Wali Rainer	6-2	227	Sr.	Virginia
DB Dré Bly	5-10	190	Jr.	North Carolina
DB Anthony Poindexter	6-1	220	Sr.	Virginia
DB Antwan Edwards	6-1	210	Sr.	Clemson
DB Dexter Jackson	6-1	195	Sr.	Florida State

#### SPECIALISTS

KR Lewis Sanders	6-1	192	Jr.	Maryland
PR Dee Feaster	5-9	182	Sr.	Florida State
K Sims Lenhardt	5-10	185	Jr.	Duke
P Rodney Williams	6-1	198	Sr.	Georgia Tech

## Big East

### Predicted

### Order of Finish

1. West Virginia
2. Syracuse
3. Miami
4. Virginia Tech
5. Boston College
6. Pittsburgh
7. Temple
8. Rutgers

### Preseason All-Big East Team

#### OFFENSE

WR Shawn Foreman	6-1	205	Sr.	West Virginia
WR Quinton Spotwood	6-0	190	Jr.	Syracuse
OL Solomon Page	6-6	300	Jr.	West Virginia
OL Bryan Pukenas	6-4	295	Sr.	West Virginia
OL Doug Brzezinski	6-4	295	Sr.	Boston College
OL Richard Mercier	6-2	285	Jr.	Miami
OL Scott Kiernan	6-3	308	Sr.	Syracuse
TE Daniel Franks	6-6	240	So.	Miami
QB Donovan McNabb	6-3	219	Sr.	Syracuse
RB Amos Zereoue	5-10	200	Jr.	West Virginia
RB Edgerrin James	6-1	220	Jr.	Miami

#### DEFENSE

DL Chris Hovan	6-3	245	Jr.	Boston College
DL John Thornton	6-3	300	Sr.	West Virginia
DL John Engelberger	6-4	252	Jr.	Virginia Tech
DL Michael Tripp	6-3	253	Sr.	Temple
LB Gary Stills	6-2	235	Sr.	West Virginia
LB Phil Clarke	6-0	220	Sr.	Pittsburgh
LB Aaron Brady	5-11	220	Sr.	Rutgers
DB Nate Terry	6-2	175	Sr.	West Virginia
DB Gary Thompkins	5-11	205	Jr.	West Virginia
DB Pierson Prioleau	5-10	182	Sr.	Virginia Tech
DB Pedro Cirino	6-0	180	Jr.	Boston College

#### SPECIALISTS

KR Kevin Johnson	5-11	184	Jr.	Syracuse
PR Quinton Spotwood	6-0	190	Jr.	Syracuse
K Jay Taylor	6-1	185	Jr.	West Virginia
P Jimmy Kibble	5-10	170	Jr.	Virginia Tech



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# conference predictions

## Big 10

Predicted

### Order of Finish

1. Ohio State
2. Michigan
3. Wisconsin
4. Michigan State
5. Penn State
6. Iowa
7. Purdue
8. Northwestern
9. Indiana
10. Illinois
11. Minnesota

#### Preseason All-Big Ten Team

##### OFFENSE

WR David Boston	6-3	205	Jr.	Ohio State
WR Gari Scott	6-1	185	Jr.	Michigan State
TE Jerame Tuman	6-5	249	Sr.	Michigan
OL Jon Jansen	6-7	299	Sr.	Michigan
OL Rob Murphy	6-5	300	Jr.	Ohio State
OL Steve Hutchinson	6-5	293	So.	Michigan
OL Derek Rose	6-4	275	Sr.	Iowa
OL Chris McIntosh	6-7	317	Jr.	Wisconsin
QB Joe Germaine	6-2	196	Sr.	Ohio State
RB Ron Dayne	5-10	258	Jr.	Wisconsin
RB Sedrick Irvin	6-0	223	Jr.	Michigan State

##### DEFENSE

DL Jared DeVries	6-4	275	Jr.	Iowa
DL Adewale Ogunleye	6-4	260	Jr.	Indiana
DL Robaire Smith	6-5	264	Jr.	Michigan State
DL Roosevelt Colvin	6-3	245	Sr.	Purdue
LB Andy Katzenmoyer	6-4	260	Jr.	Ohio State
LB Barry Gardner	6-1	245	Sr.	Northwestern
LB Sam Sword	6-2	242	Sr.	Michigan
DB Marcus Ray	6-0	210	Sr.	Michigan
DB Amp Campbell	6-0	185	Sr.	Michigan State
DB Antoine Winfield	5-9	180	Sr.	Ohio State
DB Damon Moore	5-11	200	Sr.	Ohio State

##### SPECIALISTS

KR Tyrone Carter	5-9	178	Jr.	Minnesota
PR Sedrick Irvin	6-0	223	Jr.	Michigan State
K Matt Davenport	5-10	171	Sr.	Wisconsin
P Brent Bartholomew	6-2	205	Sr.	Ohio State

## Big 12

Predicted

### Order of Finish

#### North

1. Kansas State
2. Nebraska
3. Missouri
4. Colorado
5. Kansas
6. Iowa State

#### South

1. Texas A&M
2. Oklahoma State
3. Texas
4. Oklahoma
5. Texas Tech
6. Baylor

#### Preseason All-Big 12 Team

##### OFFENSE

WR Donnie Hart	6-1	194	Sr.	Texas Tech
TE Derek Lewis	6-2	235	Sr.	Texas
OL Ryan Young	6-6	330	Sr.	Kansas State
OL Josh Heske	6-3	290	Sr.	Nebraska
OL Todd Neimeyer	6-5	296	Sr.	Missouri
OL Ryan Johanningmeier	6-7	285	Jr.	Colorado
OL Adam Davis	6-4	274	Jr.	Oklahoma State
QB Corby Jones	6-1	227	Sr.	Missouri
RB Ricky Williams	6-0	220	Sr.	Texas
RB De'Mond Parker	5-10	182	Jr.	Oklahoma
RB Darren Davis	5-8	185	Jr.	Iowa State

##### DEFENSE

DL Mike Rucker	6-6	250	Sr.	Nebraska
DL Kelly Gregg	6-0	275	Sr.	Oklahoma
DL Montae Reagor	6-2	245	Sr.	Texas Tech
LB Kenyatta Wright	6-1	232	Jr.	Oklahoma State
LB Dat Nguyen	6-1	213	Sr.	Texas A&M
LB Jeff Kelly	6-3	240	Sr.	Kansas State
LB Mark Simoneau	6-0	230	Jr.	Kansas State
DB Ralph Brown	5-9	180	Jr.	Nebraska
DB Gana Joseph	6-0	202	Sr.	Oklahoma
DB Mike Brown	5-10	205	Jr.	Nebraska
DB Marcus Washington	6-3	210	Sr.	Colorado

##### SPECIALISTS

KR Ben Kelly	5-10	175	So.	Colorado
PR David Allen	5-9	185	So.	Kansas State
K Martin Gramatica	5-9	170	Sr.	Kansas State
P Shane Lechler	6-3	219	Jr.	Texas A&M





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# conference predictions

## Big West Predicted Order of Finish

1. Utah State
2. Nevada
3. Boise State
4. Idaho
5. North Texas
6. New Mexico State

## C-USA Predicted Order of Finish

1. Southern Miss
2. East Carolina
3. Tulane
4. Cincinnati
5. Memphis
6. Louisville
7. Houston
8. Army

### Preseason All-Big West Team

#### Offense

WR Geoff Noisy	6-0	195	Sr.	Nevada
TE Jim Brekke	6-3	244	Sr.	Boise State
OL Jermaine Belin	6-4	325	Sr.	Boise State
OL Phillip Armour	6-4	275	Sr.	North Texas
OL Brett Morton	6-4	320	So.	Idaho
OL Mike Lindsay	6-2	308	Jr.	Utah State
OL Ken Watts	6-4	303	Sr.	Utah State
QB Bart Hendricks	6-0	204	So.	Boise State
RB Joel Thomas	5-7	222	Sr.	Idaho
RB Denvis Manns	5-9	200	Sr.	New Mexico State
RB Chris Lemon	5-11	200	Jr.	Nevada

#### Defense

DL Corbin Montgomery	6-0	249	Sr.	North Texas
DL James Durrough	6-0	244	Jr.	Idaho
DL Scott Blank	6-1	250	Sr.	North Texas
LB Jobe Lewis	6-2	190	Sr.	New Mexico State
LB Ryan Skinner	5-11	228	Sr.	Idaho
LB Tony D'Amato	6-0	246	Sr.	Utah State
LB Waylon Waters	6-1	220	Jr.	New Mexico State
DB Reggie Mitchell	6-1	180	Sr.	Nevada
DB Don Morgan	5-11	190	Sr.	Nevada
DB Johndale Carty	6-2	196	Sr.	Utah State
DB Bryson Gardner	6-0	200	Jr.	Idaho

#### Specialists

KR Broderick McGrew	6-3	205	Jr.	North Texas
PR Don Morgan	5-11	190	Sr.	Nevada
K Garrett Courtney	6-2	190	Sr.	North Texas
P John Baker	6-3	207	Jr.	North Texas

### Preseason All-C-USA Team

#### OFFENSE

WR JaJuan Dawson	6-1	195	Jr.	Tulane
WR Sherrod Gideon	6-0	174	Jr.	Southern Miss
TE Ibn Green	6-2	225	Jr.	Louisville
OL Henry McClendon	6-3	267	Sr.	Southern Miss
OL Danny Moore	6-4	300	Sr.	East Carolina
OL Rick Nord	6-6	300	Sr.	Louisville
OL Ron Sells	6-5	293	Sr.	Memphis
OL Brian Uhl	6-5	295	Sr.	Cincinnati
QB Shaun King	6-0	215	Sr.	Tulane
RB Toney Converse	5-8	164	So.	Tulane
RB Ketric Sanford	5-10	200	Jr.	Houston

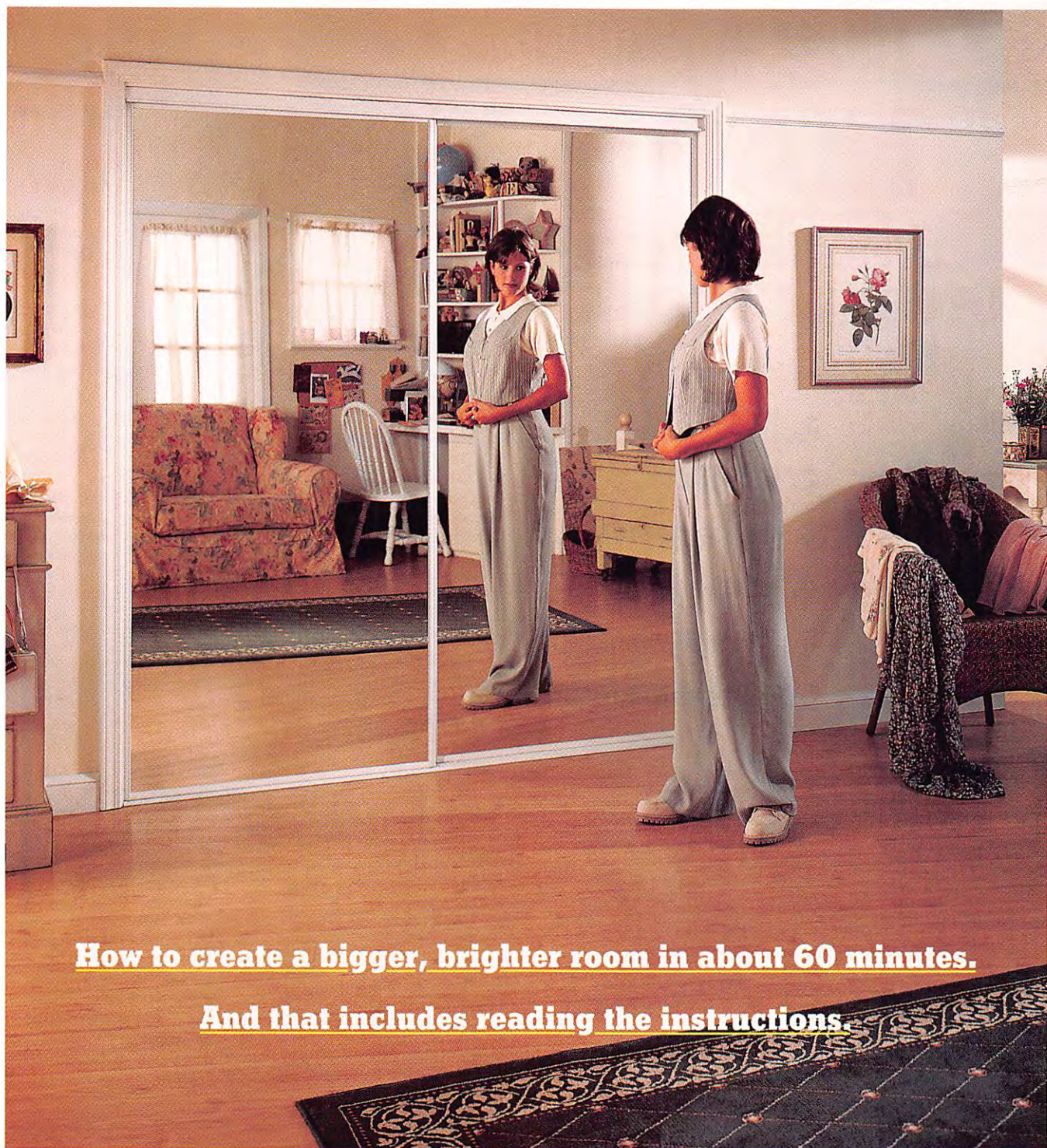
#### DEFENSE

DL Marquis Bowling	6-2	252	Sr.	Memphis
DL Dennis O'Sullivan	6-4	293	Sr.	Tulane
DL DeQuincy Scott	6-2	275	So.	Southern Miss
DL Adalius Thomas	6-2	249	Jr.	Southern Miss
LB Hassan Champion	6-1	228	Sr.	Cincinnati
LB Roderick Coleman	6-3	255	Sr.	East Carolina
LB Jeff Kerr	6-4	235	Jr.	East Carolina
DB Courtney Dinkins	6-1	190	Jr.	Louisville
DB Tinker Keck	6-1	203	Sr.	Cincinnati
DB Mike McKenzie	6-1	185	Jr.	Memphis
DB Kenny Dale Rowland	6-3	193	Sr.	Army

#### SPECIALISTS

KR Ketric Sanford	5-10	200	Jr.	Houston
PR Tinker Keck	6-1	203	Sr.	Cincinnati
K Brad Palazzo	5-11	185	Sr.	Tulane
P Brad Hill	6-2	199	Sr.	Tulane





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# conference predictions

## MAC

### Predicted Order of Finish

#### East

1. Miami
2. Marshall
3. Ohio
4. Bowling Green
5. Kent
6. Akron

#### West

1. Toledo
2. Ball State
3. Western Michigan
4. Northern Illinois
5. Central Michigan
6. Eastern Michigan

## Pac-10

### Predicted Order of Finish

1. Arizona State
2. UCLA
3. Arizona
4. Washington
5. USC
6. Oregon
7. Stanford
8. Washington State
9. California
10. Oregon State

#### Preseason All-MAC Team

##### Offense

WR Eugene Baker	6-2	163	Sr.	Kent
TE Mike Bilik	6-4	233	Jr.	Toledo
OL L.J. Shelton	6-6	324	Sr.	Eastern Michigan
OL Colin Westrich	6-6	295	Sr.	Toledo
OL Joe Schmitt	6-4	261	Sr.	Ball State
OL Kevin Kuntz	6-4	277	Sr.	Akron
OL Chris Kalafatis	6-4	274	Jr.	Miami
QB Chad Pennington	6-3	208	Jr.	Marshall
RB Dwayne Harris	5-10	182	Sr.	Toledo
RB Travis Prentice	6-2	223	Jr.	Miami
RB Robert Sanford	5-10	221	So.	Western Michigan

##### Defense

DL Dan Falcon	6-2	260	Sr.	Western Michigan
DL Letoskey Carey	6-3	245	Sr.	Bowling Green
DL Ricky Hall	6-1	269	Sr.	Marshall
LB JoJuan Armour	6-1	218	Sr.	Miami
LB Dustin Cohen	6-4	222	Jr.	Miami
LB John Grace	5-11	201	Jr.	Marshall
LB Joe O'Neill	6-2	225	Jr.	Bowling Green
DB Paris Johnson	6-2	210	Sr.	Miami
DB Rogers Beckett	6-3	200	Jr.	Marshall
DB Dennis Fitzgerald	5-10	200	Sr.	Ohio
DB Jerome Cargile	6-0	176	Sr.	Akron

##### Specialists

KR Deon Mitchell	5-10	170	Sr.	Northern Illinois
PR Steve Neal	6-2	178	Jr.	Western Michigan
K John Scott	6-2	203	Jr.	Miami
P Kent McCullough	6-2	198	So.	Miami

#### Preseason All-Pac-10 Team

##### OFFENSE

WR R. Jay Soward	5-11	175	Jr.	USC
WR Lenzie Jackson	6-0	189	Sr.	Arizona State
TE Mike Grieb	6-4	248	Sr.	UCLA
OL Tony Coats	6-7	300	Sr.	Washington
OL Aaron Dalan	6-7	320	Sr.	Washington
OL Travis Claridge	6-6	300	Jr.	USC
OL Grey Ruegamer	6-5	304	Sr.	Arizona State
OL Kris Farris	6-9	310	Jr.	UCLA
QB Cade McNown	6-1	215	Sr.	UCLA
RB Trung Canidate	5-11	188	Jr.	Arizona
RB J.R. Redmond	6-0	205	Jr.	Arizona State

##### DEFENSE

DL Inoke Breckterfield	5-11	242	Sr.	Oregon State
DL Jabari Issa	6-6	290	Jr.	Washington
DL Sultan Abdul-Malik	6-3	225	So.	USC
LB Chris Claiborne	6-3	250	Jr.	USC
LB Peter Sirmon	6-2	246	Jr.	Oregon
LB Lester Towns	6-3	240	Jr.	Washington
LB Matt Beck	6-4	230	Jr.	California
DB Chris McAlister	6-2	185	Sr.	Arizona
DB Larry Atkins	6-4	222	Sr.	UCLA
DB Lamont Thompson	6-1	205	So.	Washington State
DB Daylon McCutcheon	5-11	175	Sr.	USC

##### SPECIALISTS

KR Deltha O'Neal	5-11	190	Jr.	California
PR Troy Walters	5-8	170	Sr.	Stanford
K Chris Sailer	5-10	190	Sr.	UCLA
P Josh Bidwell	6-3	230	Sr.	Oregon





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# conference predictions

## SEC

### Predicted

### Order of Finish

#### East

1. Florida
2. Tennessee
3. Georgia
4. Kentucky
5. South Carolina
6. Vanderbilt

#### West

1. LSU
2. Ole Miss
3. Arkansas
4. Alabama
5. Auburn
6. Mississippi St.

### Preseason All-SEC Team

#### Offense

WR Jermale Kelly	6-4	187	So.	South Carolina
WR Craig Yeast	5-9	171	Sr.	Kentucky
TE Rufus French	6-4	245	Jr.	Ole Miss
OL Matt Stinchcomb	6-6	285	Sr.	Georgia
OL Jamar Nesbit	6-4	330	Sr.	South Carolina
OL Brandon Burlsworth	6-3	301	Sr.	Arkansas
OL Jeno James	6-4	298	Jr.	Auburn
OL Todd McClure	6-2	280	Sr.	LSU
QB Tim Couch	6-5	223	Jr.	Kentucky
RB Jamal Lewis	6-1	225	So.	Tennessee
RB Kevin Faulk	5-10	192	Sr.	LSU

#### Defense

DE Jimmy Brumbaugh	6-1	286	Sr.	Auburn
DT Ed Chester	6-4	283	Sr.	Florida
DT Anthony McFarland	6-1	290	Sr.	LSU
DE Chris Hood	6-1	286	Sr.	Alabama
LB Jevon Kearse	6-5	254	Jr.	Florida
LB Johnny Rutledge	6-2	246	Sr.	Florida
LB Al Wilson	6-0	226	Sr.	Tennessee
DB Champ Bailey	6-1	186	Jr.	Georgia
DB Fernando Bryant	6-0	177	Sr.	Alabama
DB Teako Brown	5-11	197	Sr.	Florida
DB Arturo Freeman	6-1	197	Sr.	South Carolina

#### Specialists

KR Boo Williams	5-11	211	Jr.	South Carolina
PR Kevin Faulk	5-10	192	Sr.	LSU
K Jeff Hall	6-0	182	Sr.	Tennessee
P Jeff Walker	6-0	205	Jr.	Mississippi State

## WAC

### Predicted

### Order of Finish

#### Pacific

1. Utah
2. BYU
3. San Diego St.
4. Fresno St.
5. New Mexico
6. UTEP
7. San Jose St.
8. Hawaii

#### Mountain

1. Colorado St.
2. Wyoming
3. Rice
4. Air Force
5. SMU
6. UNLV
7. TCU
8. Tulsa

### Preseason All-WAC Team

#### OFFENSE

WR Damon Savage	5-10	195	Jr.	Tulsa
WR Oliver Newell	5-8	185	Sr.	San Jose State
TE Sam Mineo	6-3	245	Sr.	UNLV
OL John Tait	6-7	290	Jr.	BYU
OL Charles Torello	6-1	300	Sr.	Rice
OL Frank Mindrup	6-5	290	Sr.	Air Force
OL Anthony Cesario	6-6	310	Sr.	Colorado State
OL Mike Newell	6-4	285	Sr.	Colorado State
QB Graham Leigh	6-3	214	Sr.	New Mexico
RB Damon Washington	5-11	193	Sr.	Colorado State
RB Charlie Higgins	5-9	211	Jr.	Tulsa

#### DEFENSE

DL Talance Sawyer	6-2	260	Sr.	UNLV
DL Luke Johnson	6-1	230	Jr.	SMU
DL Pene Talamaivao	6-4	313	Sr.	Utah
DL Kabere Gbaja-Biamila	6-4	235	Jr.	San Diego State
LB Nate Kvamme	6-0	208	Sr.	Colorado State
LB Phil Glover	6-0	237	Sr.	Utah
LB Rob Morris	6-2	250	Jr.	BYU
DB Lyle West	6-0	207	Sr.	San Jose State
DB Tim Curry	5-10	175	Sr.	Air Force
DB LaDouphyous McCalla	5-9	185	Sr.	Rice
DB Rico Curtis	6-0	210	Jr.	San Diego State

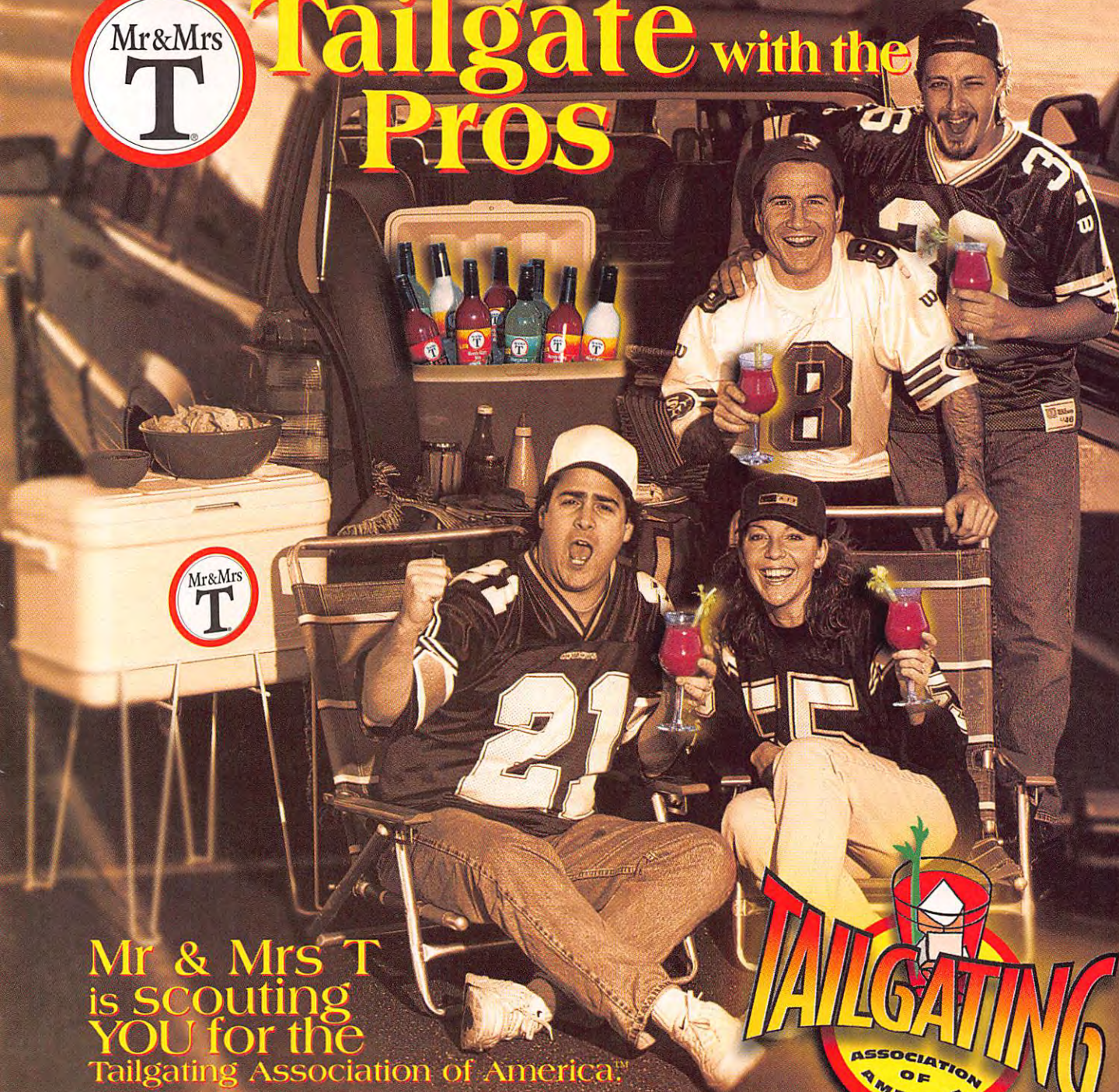
#### SPECIALISTS

KR Jaron Dabney	5-6	165	So.	BYU
PR Javier Sanchez	5-9	190	Jr.	UTEP
K Jeff Hanna	6-1	196	Jr.	Fresno State
P Aron Langley	6-0	185	Sr.	Wyoming





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**A** rebuilding season? Right. Ohio State coach John Cooper got a third-straight 10-win season and a tie for second in the Big Ten last year from a team that had to replace 14 starters. Just imagine what the Buckeyes could do if they had 18 returning starters and a favorable schedule, with Penn State, Michigan State and hated Michigan at home. Don't look now, but

Matt Keller returns at fullback. He was the third-leading rusher and receiver last season.

At wide receiver, Ohio State has two of the nation's best in David Boston and Dee Miller. The two combined for 122 catches, 1,832 yards and 19 TDs last season, including Boston's Big Ten-best 70 receptions. Ken-Yon Rambo was considered one of the top receivers coming out of high school, and he will see plenty of playing time this year.

The offensive line includes five players with starting experience. The only area on the line where a full-time starter is not returning is at right tackle, and that job should belong to Brooks Burris. He has played in 32 games and made eight starts, including five last season at this position. Rob Murphy is one of the top guards in the league and this will be his third year as a starter. Center Kurt Murphy started six of the last seven games and right guard Ben Gilbert started every game last season as a sophomore. Tyson Walter has added bulk and will start for the second straight year at left tackle.

The experience on the offensive line is emulated on the defensive side of the ball. Clinton Wayne has moved from end to tackle because the coaches like his size and quickness. Rodney Bailey, the only true freshman to start for the Buckeyes last season, returns at end after starting the final four games.

Joe Brown started five of the final six games at nose guard, and Matt LaVrar returns to start at end after switching from linebacker before last season.

The linebacking corps is the backbone of

a defense that was ranked eighth nationally last year. Na'il Diggs should fill in nicely at outside linebacker, joining senior Jerry Rudzinski and junior Andy Katzenmoyer. Rudzinski started every game last year and had 65 tackles. The key, of course, is Katzenmoyer, described by Cooper as the best he has ever seen at the position.

**3-15-1** John Cooper's record at Ohio State in the Buckeyes' final two games of the season (Michigan and bowl games). Cooper is 1-8-1 against the archrival Wolverines, including three straight losses.

The secondary could be the strength of the defense, with all the starters returning and cornerback Antoine Winfield leading the way. Winfield fulfilled expectations with a team-leading 92 tackles and 14 pass breakups. Now that Michigan's Charles Woodson is gone, Winfield should be the best cover corner in the Big Ten. At the safeties are Gary Berry and Damon Moore. Berry led the team with five interceptions and Moore developed a reputation as a big hitter. Ahmed Plummer will start at the other corner.

The specialists should augment the stellar offense and defense at Ohio State. Senior punter Brent Bartholomew is coming off an All-Big Ten season during which he averaged 45.1 yards, ninth-best nationally. Sophomore kicker Dan Stultz had a productive first year. He made 47-of-48 extra-point attempts but was a bit inconsistent on field goals.

Wiley and Rambo should handle kick returns and Boston and Berry are expected to return punts.



Joe Robbins

## Andy Katzenmoyer

that is precisely the situation in Columbus, where there are high hopes not just for a Big Ten title but for that elusive national championship that has been so close so recently.

Only two starters are missing from a defense that finished eighth nationally and returns Butkus Award winner Andy Katzenmoyer, and Antoine Winfield — perhaps the best cornerback in the league.

Offensively, only one quarterback will be in the picture this year. After two seasons of coming off the bench in the Buckeyes' two-man rotation, Joe Germaine is ready to go solo. He is deadly accurate, ranking third nationally in pass efficiency a year ago, and he has plenty of experience. Germaine is smart, reads defenses and is the biggest reason the Buckeyes came back to win the 1997 Rose Bowl.

At running back, Michael Wiley is the kind of threat any team would want. Wiley has played wide receiver for the Buckeyes, but he is now the No. 1 tailback. He is quick and shifty and rushed for 588 yards and six touchdowns last year.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

SE 9 David Boston (Jr., 2); 83 Vaness Provitt (So., 1)  
LT 77 Tyson Walter (So., 1); 69 Jim Massey (Fr., 0)  
LG 56 Rob Murphy (Jr., 2); 76 Jefferson Kelley (So., 1)  
C 63 Kurt Murphy (Jr., 2); 78 Drew Elford (Jr., 2)  
RG 64 Ben Gilbert (Jr., 2); 55 Tam Hopkins (So., 1)  
RT 67 Brooks Burris (Sr., 3); 75 Henry Fleming (So., 1)  
TE 85 John Lumpkin (Sr., 2); 84 Steve Wisniewski (Jr., 1)  
FL 15 Dee Miller (Sr., 3); 4 Ken-Yon Rambo (So., 1)  
QB 7 Joe Germaine (Sr., 2); 16 Mark Garcia (Sr., 1)  
FB 23 Matt Keller (Jr., 2); 36 Sean Penny (So., 1)  
RB 5 Michael Wiley (Jr., 2); 43 Derek Combs (So., 1)  
K 47 Dan Stultz (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (9)

DE 94 Rodney Bailey (So., 1); 96 Tony Eisenhard (Jr., 1)  
DT 90 Clinton Wayne (So., 1); 93 Randy Homa (Jr., 1)  
NG 73 Joe Brown (So., 1); 59 Paris Long (Fr., 0)  
DE 48 Matt LaVrar (Jr., 1); 91 Jeff Wilson (Sr., 3)  
LB 32 Na'il Diggs (So., 1); 58 Courtland Bullard (Fr., 1)  
LB 45 Andy Katzenmoyer (Jr., 2); 44 Chris Kirk (Jr., 2)  
LB 35 Jerry Rudzinski (Sr., 3); 30 Jason Ott (Fr., 0)  
CB 11 Antoine Winfield (Sr., 3); 3 David Mitchell (So., 1)  
CB 19 Ahmed Plummer (Jr., 2); 2 Rolland Steele (So., 1)  
SS 13 Damon Moore (Sr., 3); 20 Central McClellion (Sr., 3)  
FS 1 Gary Berry (Jr., 2); 17 Percy King (Jr., 1)  
P 41 Brent Bartholomew (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: John Cooper  
Home Field: Ohio Stadium (89,841)

1997 Record (Big 10): 10-3 (6-2)  
1998 Prediction: 1st Big 10



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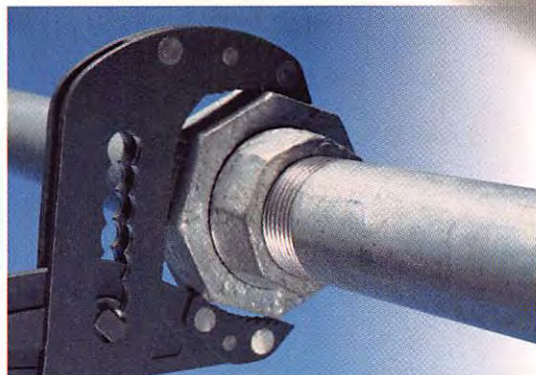
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**A**fter Kansas State's 35-18 victory over Syracuse in the Fiesta Bowl, Wildcat quarterback Michael Bishop was quoted as saying Kansas State "should be back next year."

In fact, "we will be back," he reportedly added. Bishop could be forgiven his excessive optimism, considering the emotion of the moment. Kansas State is a long shot to

Bishop's running complemented that of tailback Eric Hickson, who petitioned the NCAA and was granted, to the delight of Wildcat fans, another year of eligibility.

The Wildcats have size and experience at wide receiver. Darnell McDonald and Gavin Peries are returning starters, and Justin Swift is back as the tight end.

The lanky McDonald was the leading receiver, with 21 catches for 441 yards and six touchdowns to earn All-Big 12 honorable mention from the conference coaches, who made Peries a third-team selection. Peries caught 19 passes for 404 yards and three touchdowns. Swift is a receiving threat as well as a blocker. He caught 13 passes for 267 yards and three touchdowns.

The Wildcats rushed for 2,422 yards, just 21 shy of the school single-season record set in 1973, behind last year's line from which two starters are gone. Tackle Ryan Young is the foundation of the line.

The guards are Brien Hanley and Jeremy Martin, while Ryan Cummings and Randall Cummins are the top candidates to start at the vacated positions.

Kansas State has a wealth of experience along the defensive front. Ends Darren Howard and Joe Bob Clements and tackle Damion McIntosh are returning starters, and Andrae Rowe alternated at tackle.

Howard, a junior, is an active playmaker on the perimeter. Clements is steady on the other side.

Monty Beisel, the only true freshman to play last season, and junior Nilijah McCoy have started at times as well.

At linebacker, Jeff Kelly, Travis Ochs and Mark Simoneau form as good a threesome as there is in America. Conference coaches voted Kelly and Simoneau All-Big 12. Ochs was on the All-Big 12 second team. He and Simoneau were Wildcat co-captains. The only concern at linebacker is depth.

The secondary returns seven of the top eight from the Fiesta Bowl depth chart. All seven have started at least once at Kansas State. Plus, Adrian Beard, who went into last season as a starter, is returning from a knee injury that sidelined him for all but the first game.

93

The number of yards Bishop threw a football during a preseason workout, and an indication of just how strong his right arm is.

Lamar Chapman, Dyshod Carter and Jarrod Cooper are the returning starters, with senior Gerald Neasman moving up to start at corner along with Carter.

The Wildcats led the conference in pass defense for a fourth consecutive season and ranked fifth in the nation last year.

The specialists are special, too. Place-kicker Martin Gramatica is as good as there is. Kansas State's career scoring leader, Gramatica was a consensus All-American, winner of the Lou Groza Award, given to the nation's top kicker, and first-team All-Big 12. Punter James Garcia averaged 43.7 yards on 47 punts and goes into his final collegiate season with the best career punting average in Wildcat history (43.3).

Sophomore speedster David Allen ranked second in the Big 12 and 16th in the nation in punt returns, and Neasman averaged 33.9 yards per return on kickoffs.



David Preston

## Michael Bishop

make an appearance in the 1999 Fiesta Bowl, the Super Alliance's national championship game. Nevertheless, such a scenario doesn't require the suspension of disbelief it once did. The Wildcats have a wealth of experience to go with Bishop, an All-America candidate, which makes them favorites in the Big 12 — if they can beat Nebraska.

Bishop, a senior, was sensational in his first season after transferring from Blinn (Texas) Junior College. He rushed for 566 yards, easily the most-ever by a Wildcat quarterback, and nine touchdowns. He also passed for 1,557 yards and 13 scores.

Bishop has size, speed and a strong arm. He just needs to be more consistent. Most importantly, he's a proven winner. His combined record in junior college and at Kansas State is 35-1. That's the Wildcats' edge.

Coach Bill Snyder admitted before last season that the Wildcats needed to be "a better running team," which they were, and markedly so. They ranked 12th in the nation in rushing after ranking 12th in the Big 12 in 1996.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

WR 80 Darnell McDonald (Sr., 1); 88 Troy Hackney (Sr., 2)  
 LT 63 Ryan Cummings (So., 0); 77 Damion McIntosh (Jr., 2)  
 LG 73 Brien Hanley (Sr., 1); 72 Adam Hotz (So., 0)  
 C 58 Randall Cummins (So., 0); 74 Milford Stephenson (So., 1)  
 RG 78 Jeremy Martin (Sr., 3); 79 David McIntyre (Sr., 2)  
 RT 76 Ryan Young (Sr., 3); 71 Grant Reeves (So., 0)  
 TE 86 Justin Swift (Sr., 3); 85 Shad Meier (So., 1)  
 QB 7 Michael Bishop (Sr., 1); 18 Jonathan Beasley (Jr., 2)  
 FB 30 Brian Goolsby (Sr., 3); 45 Brandon Clark (Fr., 0)  
 TB 24 Eric Hickson (Sr., 3); 21 Marlon Charles (Sr., 2)  
 WR 87 Gavin Peries (Sr., 1); 12 DeAndrea Robinson (Sr., 0)  
 K 10 Martin Gramatica (Sr., 3); 15 Jamie Rheem (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (9)

DE 46 Joe Bob Clements (Sr., 3); 36 Chris Johnson (So., 1)  
 DT 77 Damion McIntosh (Jr., 2); 96 Nilijah McCoy (Jr., 0)  
 DT 56 Andrae Rowe (Sr., 1); 55 DeVane Robinson (Fr., 0)  
 DE 49 Darren Howard (Jr., 2); 44 Monty Beisel (So., 1)  
 LB 50 Travis Ochs (Sr., 3); 43 Travis Litton (Jr., 1)  
 LB 8 Jeff Kelly (Sr., 1); 52 Ben Leber (Fr., 0)  
 LB 42 Mark Simoneau (Jr., 2); 41 Turrelle Williams (So., 1)  
 CB 17 Gerald Neasman (Sr., 1); 27 Jacob Havick (So., 1)  
 CB 35 Dyshod Carter (So., 1); 6 Adrian Beard (So., 0)  
 SS 40 Jarrod Cooper (So., 1); 14 Milton Proctor (Fr., 1)  
 FS 1 Lamar Chapman (Jr., 2); 3 Cephus Scott (Jr., 1)  
 P 16 James Garcia (Sr., 3); 13 Josh McVey (Fr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bill Snyder  
 Home Field: KSU Stadium (42,000)

1997 Record (Big 12): 11-1 (7-1)  
 1998 Prediction: 1st Big 12 North



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# OUTDOORS



**A**sk just about any program in the country if a season that includes wins over teams like Tennessee, Auburn, Florida State and Penn State is one to remember. Chances are, the answer would be a resounding, "Absolutely!"

Florida is not just any program anymore. While 1997 provided some memorable moments — like the come-from-behind

becomes imperative. He remained in Gainesville all summer to work with his receivers. Johnson was solid in leading Florida to five straight wins to start the '97 season, while Palmer, a sophomore, played in six games as a true freshman. Talented redshirt freshman Tim Olmstead is suddenly an important figure.

Should Spurrier have to turn to the running game, he hopes senior Terry Jackson can provide a boost. Jackson, who missed the final eight games of the year following reconstructive knee surgery, rushed for 1,168 yards and 14 touchdowns during his first two seasons, but moved to fullback last year. He's back at tailback and he'll benefit from exceptional blocking by fullback Rod Frazier. Junior Eugene McCaslin can play either spot in the backfield.

Did anyone think they'd see the day that a Florida team's biggest weakness was at receiver? The two most promising youngsters are sophomores Darrell Jackson and Travis Taylor. Redshirt freshman Brian Haugabrook has shown some encouraging signs. The best-case scenario is that fifth-year senior Nafis Karim (37 catches, one TD for his career) escapes Spurrier's doghouse and reaches his immense potential.

The offensive line goes as many as 12 deep. Eight started at least one game last season. Zach Piller is one of the league's best tackles. Cooper Carlisle has his moments, and filled in adequately the last two seasons when Piller could not play. Guards Ryan Kalich and Cheston Blackshear aren't that big but combined for 20 starts last season.

Corey Yarbrough has bounced back and forth from center to guard, but will assume snapper duties for good this season.

The inside tackle tandem of senior All-America candidate Ed Chester and rock-solid junior Reggie McGrew anchor the defensive line. On the outside, seniors Willie Cohens and Tim Beauchamp are the defensive ends.

Linebacker Jevon Kearse enters his junior season at Florida. Kearse, at 6-5, 254, is a beast who plays full-bore all day and runs like a safety. Weak-side linebacker Johnny Rutledge and Mike Peterson on the strong side are big-play defenders. This is a linebacker corps that, combined with the line, comprises the best front seven in the country.

**3** The number of Florida players — Mo Collins, Fred Taylor and Jaquez Green — among the first 34 chosen in the NFL Draft.

Florida must replace both corners. Senior strong safety Tony George will return to corner, and Stoops hopes either junior Dock Pollard, sophomore Cedric Warren or redshirt freshman Mike Gipson can handle the other corner. Senior free safety Teako Brown had six interceptions in '97. Free safety Rod Graddy had a stellar spring. Marquand Manuel would have played some safety as a true freshman, but an injury earned him a redshirt.

Kicker Collins Cooper and punter Robby Stevenson are back, but the coaches may look to incoming freshman David Wasielewski, a prep All-American from Tampa. Wasielewski missed just two field goals last season with a long of 53 and averaged 44 yards per punt.



Courtland Richards

## Jevon Kearse

32-29 victory over the nation's No. 1 team, archival Florida State — the Gators' 10-2 season holds the dubious distinction of being their first in five years without a Southeastern Conference title.

The Gators had their chances. Florida routed Peyton Manning and Tennessee early in the season and overcame the suspension of starting quarterback Doug Johnson with a crucial and decisive win at Auburn. But losses at LSU (the first conference defeat for the Gators in 25 games) and against Georgia (Spurrier's first loss to the Bulldogs) found Florida watching Tennessee play Auburn for the SEC title in December.

Now it's 1998 and Florida is ready to make another run. A quarterback controversy arose when the Gators broke spring camp. Quarterback Jesse Palmer clearly outperformed returning starter Doug Johnson in the spring game. To make matters worse for Johnson, he had surgery to remove a cyst from his shoulder. His availability for the season is in doubt. Palmer's rapid develop in Spurrier's system now

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

**WR** 3 Travis McGriff (Sr., 3); 9 Darrell Jackson (So., 1)  
**LT** 69 Zach Piller (Sr., 2); 57 Scott Bryan (Jr., 2)  
**LG** 77 Cheston Blackshear (Jr., 2); Leon Hires (So., 0)  
**C** 62 Corey Yarbrough (Jr., 2); 63 Tommy Hillard (Fr., 0)  
**RG** 51 Ryan Kalich (Jr., 2); 73 Pat Browning (Jr., 2)  
**RT** 70 Cooper Carlisle (Jr., 2); 73 Pat Browning (Jr., 2)  
**TE** 89 Erron Kinney (Jr., 2); 82 Dwight Edge (So., 1)  
**WR** 8 Nafis Karim (Sr., 3); 19 Travis Taylor (So., 1)  
**QB** 7 Jesse Palmer (So., 1); 16 Tim Olmstead (Fr., 0)  
**FB** 40 Rod Frazier (So., 1); 35 Luke Farmer (Fr., 0)  
**TB** 22 Terry Jackson (Sr., 3); 32 Eugene McCaslin (Jr., 2)  
**K** 95 Collins Cooper (Sr., 2); David Wasielewski (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE** 55 Willie Cohens (Sr., 3); 11 Thaddeus Bullard (Jr., 1)  
**DT** 94 Ed Chester (Sr., 3); 99 Buck Gurley (So., 1)  
**DT** 92 Reggie McGrew (Jr., 2); 91 Derrick Chambers (So., 1)  
**DE** 93 Tim Beauchamp (Sr., 3); 98 Anthony Mitchell (Jr., 2)  
**LB** 58 Johnny Rutledge (Sr., 3); 41 Keith Kelsey (Jr., 2)  
**LB** 42 Jevon Kearse (Jr., 2); 56 Daryl Owens (So., 1)  
**LB** 29 Mike Peterson (Sr., 3); 39 Teddy Sims (So., 1)  
**CB** 27 Cedric Warren (So., 1); 28 Dock Pollard (Jr., 2)  
**CB** 1 Tony George (Sr., 3); 31 Craig Dudley (So., 1)  
**SS** 4 Marquand Manuel (Fr., 0); 23 Demetrius Lewis (Jr., 2)  
**FS** 33 Teako Brown (Sr., 3); 47 Rod Graddy (So., 1)  
**P** 87 Robby Stevenson (Sr., 3); David Wasielewski (Fr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach:** Steve Spurrier  
**Home Field:** Florida Field (83,600)

**1997 Record (SEC):** 10-2 (6-2)  
**1998 Prediction:** 1st SEC East





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**F**lorida State coach Bobby Bowden should patent his formula for producing winning football teams. The records are well documented, but as a reminder, the Seminoles enter 1998 with 11 consecutive 10-win seasons, an NCAA record, and a record 11 consecutive finishes among the nation's top four. Bowden's program has dominated the Atlantic Coast

for with intelligence and solid decision-making. Now, coaches have to build a system in which he can succeed.

Travis Minor, who gained 623 yards as a freshman, is FSU's primary weapon at tailback, thanks to a knee injury to Davy Ford. Vannez Gooch's transfer to Florida and Dee Feaster's move to cornerback. Junior-college transfer Raymont Skaggs shows promise, as does William McCray, who can play both tailback and fullback. Lamarr Glenn and converted lineman Billy Rhodes are blocking fullbacks.

Wide receiver is a strength for Florida State. For a few seasons after Tamarick Vanover left school, FSU struggled to find deep threats. No longer. E.G. Green is gone, but Peter Warrick and Laveranues Coles form one of the country's fastest tandems.

Senior Myron Jackson has first shot at the tight end position vacated by All-ACC performer Melvin Pearsall.

A commitment to younger offensive linemen should pay off this year, despite having to replace Tra Thomas and center Kevin Long. Guard Jason Whitaker is the senior statesman, but guard Donald Heaven is a budding star. However, FSU must find a weak-side tackle. Tarlos Crumitie and converted defensive lineman Char-ron Dorsey are the candidates, but Ross Brannon and Jerry Carmichael, who rotated in and out of the lineup in 1997, could be plugged in. Jarad Moon is at center.

When healthy, the Seminoles could arguably field a two-deep All-ACC defensive line, despite having to replace Andre Wadsworth and Greg Spires. Tackle

Jerry Johnson started every game as a sophomore for a defense that was the country's best against the run (allowing 51.9 yards a game). Tackle Larry Smith, a converted offensive lineman, is just as big-play oriented. Tony Bryant and Roland Seymour are the new ends, but sophomores Jamal Reynolds and David Warren have served notice for playing time.

At linebacker, it's Lamont Green's time to shine. After years of promise, Green is the most experienced linebacker in the program, and as such he will move to the big-play outside spot on the weak side. The Seminoles must rely on youth to replace Daryl Bush and Sam Cowart. Former walk-on Bobby Rhodes is Option No. 1 for middle linebacker. Deon Humphrey has dibs on the strong-side job.

**4.16**

As in 4.16 seconds, Laveranues Coles' time in the 40-yard dash. It's the fastest time in FSU history, and it means Coles should team with Peter Warrick to drive defenses into constant five-man coverages.

The Seminoles are just slightly less vulnerable in the secondary than at linebacker. Tay Cody, who started every game as a freshman last year, and veteran backup Troy Saunders will be the corners. Dexter Jackson, a special teams whiz, is the free safety. After that, the secondary is defined by inexperience. Sophomore Derrick Gibson is the likely rover.

Sophomore Sebastian Janikowski made 16-of-21 field goal attempts, including a 56-yarder. Punter Keith Cottrell was solid with a 38.4-yard average. Warrick, Feaster, Coles and Skaggs could be the ACC's best group of returners.



Courtland Richards

## Peter Warrick

Conference (47-1 in six seasons in the league). So it should scare the pants off all those in the ACC to learn that Bowden, 68, is as excited about this season as any he can remember.

"I see a lot of potential there, but I also see a need for more experience, more seasoning," says Bowden, who enters his 23rd season at FSU.

Twelve starters return from a team that beat Ohio State in the Sugar Bowl and finished 11-1 and No. 3 in the country. Unfortunately, quarterback Dan Kendra, a junior the coach had been dying to spring on the rest of America, injured his knee in the spring and may be lost for 1998.

Kendra spent his first three seasons at FSU honing his 240-pound physique and self-confidence behind Danny Kanell and Thad Busby, but all that could be lost for the season. In his place is sophomore Chris Weinke, a former minor-league baseball player whose poise is as unusual as his age (25). What Weinke lacks in Kendra's raw athleticism and aggressiveness he makes up

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

SE 7 Laveranues Coles (Jr., 2); 80 Ron Dugans (Jr., 3)  
LT 76 Ross Brannon (So., 1); 71 Jerry Carmichael (So., 1)  
LG 68 Jason Whitaker (Jr., 2); 77 Jeremy Brett (Jr., 2)  
C 54 Jarad Moon (So., 1); 57 Eric Thomas (Jr., 2)  
RG 78 Donald Heaven (So., 1); 64 Justin Amman (So., 1)  
RT 60 Tarlos Crumitie (So., 1); 91 Char-ron Dorsey (So., 1)  
TE 84 Myron Jackson (Sr., 3); 88 Carver Donaldson (So., 1)  
QB 16 Chris Weinke (So., 1); 10 Dan Kendra (Jr., 2)  
FB 31 Lamarr Glenn (Sr., 3); 43 Billy Rhodes (Sr., 3)  
RB 23 Travis Minor (So., 1); 36 William McCray (So., 1)  
FL 9 Peter Warrick (Jr., 2); 86 Germaine Stringer (Jr., 2)  
K 38 Sebastian Janikowski (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (5)

DE 40 Tony Bryant (Sr., 1); 58 Jamal Reynolds (So., 1)  
DT 92 Jerry Johnson (Jr., 2); 48 Bryne Malone (So., 1)  
NG 96 Larry Smith (Jr., 2); 53 Corey Simon (Jr., 2)  
DE 56 Roland Seymour (So., 1); 99 David Warren (So., 1)  
LB 45 Lamont Green (Sr., 3); 5 Theon Rackley (Jr., 2)  
LB 49 Bobby Rhodes (Jr., 2); 52 Demetro Stephens (Sr., 3)  
LB 21 Deon Humphrey (Sr., 3); 55 Brian Allen (So., 1)  
CB 4 Troy Saunders (Sr., 3); 12 Abdul Howard (So., 1)  
CB 27 Tay Cody (So., 1); 8 Clevan Thomas (So., 1)  
SS 6 Derrick Gibson (So., 1); 15 Jean Jeune (So., 0)  
FS 11 Dexter Jackson (Sr., 3); 35 Todd Frier (Jr., 2)  
P 47 Keith Cottrell (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bobby Bowden

Home Field: Doak Campbell Stadium (80,000)

1997 Record (ACC): 11-1 (8-0)

1998 Prediction: 1st ACC



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**W**est Virginia returns a record-breaking quarterback, a Heisman Trophy candidate at running back, two Big East Conference-leading receivers, four starting offensive linemen and three 1997 first-team all-conference defensive players. Yet Mountaineer coach Don Nehlen is concerned with what he doesn't have. Namely, a punter, depth on

his way to 1,505 yards (third-best nationally) and 16 touchdowns on 264 carries, earning first-team all league honors. Zereoue ended up 10th in the Heisman Trophy voting and figures to be a candidate for the award this fall. Junior Anthony Green will be at fullback — a 240-pound blocking fullback.

It's going to be difficult to stop West Virginia if David Saunders, a first-team all-league selection at wide receiver two years ago, regains his old form (76 catches in 1996) after spending more than a year rehabilitating a knee injury. The Mountaineers are already strong at the position with senior Shawn Foreman, who emerged with 65 catches for 818 yards and five touchdowns last season. Khorl Ivy worked his way into the starting lineup last year as Saunders' stand-in and responded with 19 catches for 282 yards until he was shelved by a broken leg in the season's eighth game. Pat Greene took over from there and caught 32 balls for 491 yards. Anthony Becht should move up to full-time duty in 1998 at tight end.

Only one starter graduated, leaving a wealth of talent and experience in the offensive line.

The returning linemen include 6-6, 300-pound tackle Solomon Page, a legitimate All-America candidate, and a pair of all-conference seniors, guard Bryan Pukenas and center Eric de Groh. Randy Dunnigan returns at the other guard spot. Senior Steve Ford also has starting experience, and Nehlen believes the addition of senior Brock Holland into the mix could result in one of West Virginia's best units in years.

Tackle John Thornton, 300 pounds of strength and agility and one of the most formidable run-stuffers you'll find anywhere, returns. His coaches feel he could be the best defensive lineman ever at West Virginia before he's through. Kevin Landolt and Ryan Brady join Thornton up front. Both have been starters.

**45** The number of West Virginia players under Don Nehlen who have been drafted by NFL teams.



Bill Wood

## Amos Zereoue

both sides of the ball and cohesiveness on defense. This last item is understandable since nine of WVU's 11 defensive starters missed at least one game due to injury last year. Nehlen's concerns about depth are well-founded, but his front-line personnel is as good as it gets. His defense has the most potential of any in the Big East. And no other school in the league is the equal of the Mountaineers in offensive firepower.

The offensive spark starts with quarterback Mark Bulger, who made dramatic strides last season, completing 59 percent of his passes for 2,465 yards and 14 touchdowns. Along the way, Bulger effectively ran Nehlen's multiple-I offense to the tune of 381 total yards and 30 points per game. He has a quick release and a nice touch, and he can throw on the run.

If quarterback is the spark, tailback Amos Zereoue is the plug that makes West Virginia run. If Amos isn't famous yet, he will be after his 1998 campaign. He was awesome last season. The Big East's rushing and scoring leader, Zereoue slashed and darted

At linebacker, senior Damon Cogdell joins senior rush linebacker Gary Stills, who played hurt all year and missed two regular-season starts yet still collected 11 sacks and first-team All-Big East honors. Junior K.C. Schiller and sophomore Chris Edmonds are the most experienced of the candidates to fill the two vacancies.

Six players return who started in the secondary. Senior Nate Terry was an all-conference cornerback. He picked off four enemy aerials in '97 and broke up 11 more. Terry and junior Perlo Bastien form the Big East's best cornerback tandem.

Junior strong safety Barrett Green tied Terry for the team lead with four interceptions and took one back 83 yards for a score. Junior Gary Thompkins returns at free safety, while seniors Charles Fisher and Dave Lightcap both picked up starting assignments in the secondary a year ago.

Jay Taylor will handle the placekicking. Nehlen doesn't have an experienced punter now that Bryan Baumann has graduated. Terry electrified crowds last year on kick returns, including two dazzling 100-yard touchdowns.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

WR 6 David Saunders (Sr., 3); 8 Khorl Ivy (Jr., 1)  
 LT 77 Solomon Page (Sr., 2); 79 Tanner Russell (Jr., 0)  
 LG 60 Randy Dunnigan (Sr., 3); 62 Steve Ford (Sr., 2)  
 C 67 Eric de Groh (Sr., 3); 76 John Conte (Jr., 0)  
 RG 61 Bryan Pukenas (Sr., 3); 62 Steve Ford (Sr., 2)  
 RT 69 Brock Holland (Sr., 1); 71 Matt Wilson (So., 0)  
 TE 82 Anthony Becht (Sr., 2); 81 Kingsley Macmado (Sr., 0)  
 QB 10 Marc Bulger (Sr., 1); 10 Andy Keating (So., 0)  
 FB 49 Anthony Green (Sr., 2); 40 Jeremy Knapp (Fr., 0)  
 TB 20 Amos Zereoue (Sr., 2); Alvin Swoope (Jr., 1)  
 WR 16 Shawn Foreman (Sr., 3); 21 Pat Greene (Jr., 1)  
 K 47 Jay Taylor (Sr., 2)

### DEFENSE (7)

DE 43 Ryan Brady (Jr., 1); 42 Josh Druck (So., 0)  
 NT 96 John Thornton (Sr., 3); Rondrick Smith (Fr., 0)  
 DT 98 Kevin Landolt (Sr., 3); 54 Charlton Forbes (Jr., 2)  
 LB 55 Gary Stills (Sr., 2); 99 Greg Robinette (Sr., 0)  
 LB 41 Chris Edmonds (So., 1); 56 Robert Lum (Sr., 1)  
 LB 1 Damon Cogdell (Sr., 1); Kevin Freeman (Fr., 0)  
 LB 38 K.C. Schiller (Jr., 2); 50 Kyle Kayden (Fr., 0)  
 CB 28 Nate Terry (Sr., 1); 12 Gregory Hernandez (Sr., 2)  
 CB 3 Perlo Bastien (Jr., 2); 4 Charles Fisher (Sr., 1)  
 SS 33 Barrett Green (Jr., 2); 19 Boo Sensabaugh (Sr., 1)  
 FS 11 Gary Thompkins (Jr., 1); 35 Dave Lightcap (Sr., 1)  
 P 30 Matthew Garrett (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Don Nehlen  
 Home Field: Mountaineer Field (63,500)

1997 Record (Big East): 7-5 (4-3)  
 1998 Prediction: 1st Big East



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The Michigan Wolverines have not been in this situation in, oh, about half a century: defending a national championship. Eight months after earning a share of the national title, the difficult part begins for Michigan.

The Wolverines have not lost many starters, but they will be without those coach Lloyd Carr considered "the heart and

Williams, who led the team in rushing in 1996, also returns. Freshman Justin Fargas is expected to make an impact as soon as he adds bulk to his 6-1, 185-pound frame. Demetrius Smith, a 6-2, 270-pound sophomore, takes over at fullback.

Wide receiver was not a Wolverine strength last season, so they signed two of the top prep receivers in the country. Marquise Walker was listed as the No. 1 receiver by several recruiting services. He is fast and athletic and can be a game-breaker. David Terrell had committed to Notre Dame before changing his mind and signing with Michigan. They join senior Tai Streets, who was hampered by finger injuries but was the leading receiver in '97. Tight end Jerame Tuman has been a major contributor the last two seasons and has National Football League aspirations. Tuman boasts both size and speed and has made great strides as a blocker.

The question mark heading into the 1997 season was the offensive line. Now the question is, just how good can it get? The only vacancy is at center, where backup Steve Frazier and David Brandt are battling it out. Jon Jansen, who has started three seasons at right tackle, will be back for his senior year, while Jeff Backus, who started as a redshirt freshman, will return at left tackle. Chris Ziemann and Steve Hutchinson return at the guards.

The only loss from last year's defensive line is a big one, end Glen Steele. He'll be replaced by senior Jaquain Feazell, who had four sacks. James Hall returns at rush end. Juniors Rob Renes and Josh Williams were

eye-openers in their first duty as starters. Renes stepped in at nose guard, while Williams, who was not expected to start, inherited his job when Ben Huff was lost to injury in the preseason. Both are physical and dominating.

The Wolverine linebackers are an imposing group, and not necessarily because of size. Defensive coordinator Jim Herrmann went with smaller, faster players a year ago and it worked. Senior Sam Sword and junior Dhani Jones return at the inside positions, and Clint Copenhaver has another year to play on the outside. Sword led the team with 88 tackles, and Jones had 78 plus 10 in the Rose Bowl.



Sam Sword

soul" of the championship team. The most notable absentees are cornerback Charles Woodson, the 1997 Heisman Trophy winner, and quarterback Brian Griese.

For the second straight season, the Wolverines enter the fall without a definite starting quarterback. Griese was named the starter the week of the opener last year, and it might just happen that way again. One thing is certain: Michigan clearly will have a more wide-open offense. All four quarterbacks are big, quick and have strong arms.

Junior Tom Brady appears the most likely starter. He was Griese's backup and completed 12-of-15 passes for 103 yards in four games. It is difficult to discount fifth-year senior Scott Dreisbach, the starter in 1995 and 1996 who was slowed early last season with a wrist injury and never got in the mix.

Tailback Chris Howard, who led the team with 868 rushing yards, and fullback Chris Floyd are gone, but the Wolverines have reloaded. Anthony Thomas, the Big Ten Freshman of the Year last season, is a powerful, quick back, and senior Clarence

108,000

The approximate Michigan Stadium attendance at each game this season. The "Big House" is getting bigger, with nearly 5,500 seats added during off-season expansion. Capacity of Michigan Stadium was 102,501 and the Ohio State game last season drew a record 106,982.

Woodson had a year of eligibility remaining, but he is in the NFL now. Andre Weathers was overlooked at the other corner but did receive first-team All-Big Ten honors. Sophomores James Whitley and William Peterson are the candidates for the other corner. Strong safety Marcus Ray finished just behind Woodson with five interceptions and is the new ringleader in the secondary.

Punter Jason Vinson returns along with Jay Feely, who handled kickoffs and long field goals. But true freshman Hayden Epstein, rated the No. 1 kicker coming out of high school, should get an opportunity.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

SE 86 Tai Streets (Sr., 3); Marquise Walker (Fr., 0)  
LT 79 Jeff Backus (So., 1); 71 Jeff Potts (Jr., 1)  
LG 76 Steve Hutchinson (So., 1); 63 Eric Warner (So., 0)  
C 64 Steve Frazier (Jr., 0); 67 David Brandt (So., 1)  
RG 52 Chris Ziemann (Jr., 2); 67 David Brandt (So., 1)  
RT 77 Jon Jansen (Sr., 3); 78 Noah Parker (Sr., 1)  
TE 80 Jerame Tuman (Sr., 3); 36 Aaron Shea (Jr., 2)  
FL 85 Marcus Knight (Jr., 2); David Terrell (Fr., 0)  
QB 10 Tom Brady (Jr., 1); 12 Scott Dreisbach (Sr., 3)  
FB 27 Demetrius Smith (So., 1); 35 Ray Jackson (So., 1)  
RB 32 Anthony Thomas (So., 1); 33 Clarence Williams (Sr., 3)  
K 49 Jay Feely (Sr., 3); 46 Kraig Baker (Sr., 2)

### DEFENSE (9)

LE 90 Jaquain Feazell (Sr., 3); 54 Maurice Williams (So., 1)  
NT 58 Rob Renes (Jr., 2); 60 Nate Miller (Sr., 1)  
DT 91 Josh Williams (Jr., 2); 95 Pat Kratus (Jr., 2)  
RE 56 James Hall (Jr., 2); 99 Jake Frysinger (Fr., 1)  
OLB 43 Clint Copenhaver (Sr., 3); 45 Jeff Holtry (Jr., 2)  
ILB 93 Sam Sword (Sr., 3); 57 Chris Singletary (Sr., 2)  
ILB 55 Dhani Jones (Jr., 2); 20 Ian Gold (Jr., 2)  
CB 30 Andre Weathers (Sr., 3); 5 James Whitley (So., 1)  
CB 23 William Peterson (So., 1); 5 James Whitley (So., 1)  
SS 29 Marcus Ray (Sr., 3); 41 Tommy Hendricks (Jr., 2)  
FS 41 Tommy Hendricks (Jr., 2); 8 Ryan Parini (So., 0)  
P 38 Jason Vinson (Sr., 1); 46 Kraig Baker (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Lloyd Carr  
Home Field: Michigan Stadium (107,700)

1997 Record (Big Ten): 12-0 (8-0)  
1998 Prediction: 2nd Big Ten



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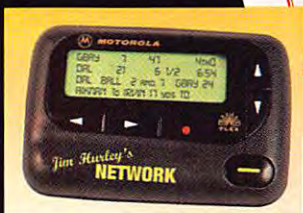
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**Y**es, he brought back the "magic." But now, with Year Four at hand, Gerry DiNardo is being asked to bring back the "magic" with a capital "M," Magic as in an SEC championship for his LSU Tigers, who have been without one for 10 years. A tough schedule, which includes Auburn, Florida, Ole Miss and Arkansas on the road, Georgia replacing Vanderbilt, and

throw more than 15-18 times a game.

The backfield must be the best in America. Bar none. DiNardo received a bonus when running back Kevin Faulk, the SEC's leading rusher, decided to play his senior season in Baton Rouge, giving the Tigers three running backs — Faulk, Cecil Collins and Rondell Mealey — who last season rushed for a total of 2,404 yards.

Faulk is a multi-talented runner with outstanding open field moves and the power to run over defensive backs. Mealey is the only one of the big three to play in all 11 games a year ago, rushing for 664 yards and 5.9 yards a carry. Collins was just beginning to show his talents when his season ended with a broken leg at Vanderbilt. He rushed for a whopping 596 yards in just four games.

DiNardo also is looking for big things from his fullback, 250-pound Tommy Banks, who was good enough to start several games in which he impressed as a blocker and contributed some quality carries.

At receiver, Tyler has his top targets, Abram Booty and Larry Foster, returning. The two combined for over 1,100 yards last season. Jamal Pack has earned the tight end job by virtue of his blocking ability.

Certainly the three LSU running backs are super talents, but the front line can blow open defensive lines. Tackle Trey Langley, center Todd McClure and guard Al Jackson all started last season. Ryan Thomassie and tackle Louis Williams are not without experience, so the front line should continue to be effective.

Defensively, the big story is the switch

from a 4-3 to a 3-4. The Tigers will have experience up front with seniors Arnold Miller and Anthony McFarland and junior Johnny Mitchell. Miller will play the newly created end/linebacker position, and McFarland and Mitchell will be in the middle. Their primary responsibility is to hold offensive linemen at the line of scrimmage to foil running plays. Jarvis Green will line up opposite Miller.

The strength of the Tigers' defense lies with the two linebackers in the middle, Joe Wesley and Charles Smith. Wesley was the team's leading tackler a year ago, Smith second. Freshman All-SEC performer Theo Williams steps in as a starter on the outside. If a true freshman breaks in, it should be Adam McConathy, Louisiana's Mr. Football for 1997.

**15-2**

The Tigers' record when Kevin Faulk rushes for 100 yards, which he did six times in '97.

In the secondary, free safety Mark Roman returns along with corner Chris Cummings. Clarence LeBlanc beat out Chris Beard at strong safety. Fred Booker brings good speed at the other corner and Raion Hill is a dependable backup. Game-in and game-out consistency would help this unit. Against the Gators, LSU held Steve Spurrier's bunch without a touchdown pass for the first time in 62 regular-season games. A week later, however, the secondary was breaking down against Ole Miss.

Junior Danny Boyd will assume the kicking duties and classmate Jeremy Witten is the new punter. He punted 15 times last season exclusively in pooch situations.

The return game is solid with Faulk returning both kicks and punts.



**Kevin Faulk**

a November trip to South Bend to face Notre Dame, will make things difficult.

Last year, for the first time in school history, LSU's average for seven home games topped 80,000. Still, the team's three losses were before sellout crowds in Tiger Stadium when LSU went to the post a solid favorite. Those fans will carry even higher expectations into this season as the Tigers return nine starters on offense, seven on defense.

Fortunately, the awesome threesome in the backfield should make life easier for quarterback Herb Tyler who, more than anyone, will be in search of that elusive trait: Consistency. Against Florida, the New Orleans product could do no wrong. He ran a 40-yard quarterback keeper to put his team ahead, 7-0, and later scooted 11 yards on another keeper to make it 28-14.

However, in his team's three losses, Tyler was never able to sustain any kind of rhythm, overthrowing wide open receivers and forcing the ball into tight coverage. DiNardo asks him to pass just enough to keep defenses honest, so LSU is not likely to

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

**SE** 88 Abram Booty (So., 1); 11 Michael Hayes (Fr., 0)  
**LT** 70 Louis Williams (So., 1); 60 Ryan Hebert (Jr., 0)  
**LG** 71 Al Jackson (Jr., 1); 67 Alvin Puckett (So., 0)  
**C** 72 Todd McClure (Sr., 3); 79 Naeshall Menard (Jr., 0)  
**RG** 65 Ryan Thomassie (Sr., 3); 78 Dwayne Pierce (So., 0)  
**RT** 75 Trey Langley (So., 1); 68 Brandon Winey (So., 0)  
**TE** 81 Jamal Pack (Jr., 2); **87 Joe Domingaux** (So., 1)  
**FB** 22 Larry Foster (Jr., 2); 33 Nemessis Bates (Jr., 0)  
**QB** 14 Herb Tyler (Sr., 3); 6 Rohan Davey (Fr., 0)  
**RB** 43 Tommy Banks (So., 1); 44 Robert Tyler (Jr., 2)  
**RB** 3 Kevin Faulk (Sr., 3); 7 Rondell Mealey (Jr., 2)  
**K** 83 Danny Boyd (Jr., 2); 84 Christian Chauvin (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

**DT** 95 Johnny Mitchell (Jr., 2); 97 Kareem Mitchell (So., 0)  
**NG** 94 Anthony McFarland (Sr., 3); 91 Musingum Barnes (Fr., 0)  
**DE** 59 Jarvis Green (Fr., 0); 90 Willie Harvey (So., 0)  
**OLB** 98 Arnold Miller (Sr., 3); 92 Roshawn Matthews (Jr., 1)  
**ILB** 48 Joe Wesley (Sr., 3); 46 Wardell Sykes (So., 0)  
**ILB** 35 Charles Smith (Jr., 2); 52 Thomas Dunson (Fr., 0)  
**OLB** 93 Theo Williams (Jr., 2); 37 Aaron Adams (Sr., 2)  
**CB** 1 Fred Booker (So., 1); 21 Raion Hill (Sr., 2)  
**CB** 19 Chris Cummings (Sr., 3); 47 Robert Davis (Fr., 0)  
**SS** 18 Clarence LeBlanc (Jr., 2); **26 Chris Beard** (Sr., 3)  
**FS** 8 Mark Roman (Jr., 2); 29 Terrence O'Bryant (Fr., 0)  
**P** 23 Jeremy Witten (Jr., 1); 25 Corey Gibbs (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach:** Gerry DiNardo  
**Home Field:** Tiger Stadium (79,940)

**1997 Record (SEC):** 9-3 (6-2)  
**1998 Prediction:** 1st SEC West





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**P**asadena or Tempe? Where does Arizona State want to play its next bowl game? It's an interesting dilemma. The Rose Bowl in Pasadena is the prize Pac-10 teams eye every year. But with the national championship game of the new Super Alliance being held in their stadium, the Sun Devils wouldn't mind being home for the holidays.



During the spring, Redmond got a look at safety and gave a good account of himself. Defense, he says, is where his heart is. If Marlon Farlow emerges as expected, Redmond's time on defense increases. Farlow has been waiting four years to get his chance, and he finds himself in the role of Redmond's alternate. Senior Jeff Paulk plays fullback — flyback in Arizona State terminology — and he may get drafted because he's a punishing blocker.

Senior Lenzie Jackson is the go-to receiver, a move-the-chains pass catcher who snagged 53 balls in '97. The other spot was won in the spring by sophomore Tariq McDonald, who wears John Jefferson's no. 84, by beating out incumbent Kenny Mitchell. Kendrick Bates (23 catches) leads a solid group of tight ends. He has soft hands and is a tremendous blocker.

On the offensive line, left tackle Marvel Smith and right guard Victor Leyva performed admirably as redshirt freshmen. Senior Grey Ruegamer is set for an All-America year at center. Left guard and right tackle are open, with redshirt freshman Scott Peters the front-runner at guard and junior Thomas Schmidt and senior Troy Davis battling at tackle.

The defensive line is three-fourths new, and there are big shoes to fill. It has been a Devil strength, as Arizona State has allowed only 19 rushing touchdowns in the past two years. Junior Ryan Reilly took the lead to grab the important anchor tackle spot, but the staff is hoping JC transfer Junior Ioane lives up to his advance billing. Lanky 6-9 sophomore Quincy Yancy is at

left end playing alongside senior Albrey Battle, who needs more consistency. JC All-American Erik Flowers and senior Derrick Ford will man the pass-rushing end spot.

Senior Larry Johnson, who missed spring practice for academic reasons, is the lone linebacker returning but he may not play that position come fall. The Devils want their three best players on the field, and speed and smarts will take precedence.

Sophomore Stephen Trejo has the size (235 pounds) and speed to play the middle. Sophomore Adam Archuleta is undersized (200). Redshirt freshman Eric Fields is too athletic to keep off the field. Senior Joe Cesta is an athletic player who had a spectacular interception against Oregon.

**18.5**

The number of points allowed per game by Arizona State, which led the Pac-10 for a second consecutive season. During the Rose Bowl season the Devils yielded 17.8 points per game.

## J.R. Redmond

"I would like to go back to Pasadena and finish up some unfinished business," says junior cornerback Courtney Jackson, referring to the club's last-second Rose Bowl loss to Ohio State in 1997. "But that means you're not going to be national champs. I want to be national champs."

The Sun Devils believe that an unexpected 9-3 Sun Bowl champion team portends something bigger this season. The offense returns virtually intact, and the defense has quality reserves ready to move into starting positions.

Arizona State went through growing pains with a redshirt freshman, Ryan Kealy, at quarterback. Now he's older, wiser and better. Kealy broke the school freshman passing records for touchdowns (15) and yards (2,137).

At running back, Junior J.R. Redmond finally becomes the main man after serving as the quick-striking alternate last season. In two seasons, Redmond, one of the country's top all-purpose runners, has gained 1,166 yards and averaged 5.6 yards a carry.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

WR 83 Lenzie Jackson (Sr., 3); 24 Ricky Boyer (Sr., 3)  
 LT 71 Marvel Smith (So., 1); 69 Ken Westerhaus (Jr., 0)  
 LG 53 Scott Peters (Fr., 0); 57 Craig Sweasy (So., 0)  
 C 51 Grey Ruegamer (Sr., 3); 64 Randy Leapart (Sr., 3)  
 RG 75 Victor Leyva (So., 1); 68 Kaleb Ramsay (So., 0)  
 RT 73 Thomas Schmidt (Jr., 0); Troy Davis (Sr., 2)  
 TE 85 Kendrick Bates (Jr., 1); 88 Matt Cercone (Sr., 1)  
 QB 8 Ryan Kealy (So., 1); 15 Chad Elliott (Fr., 0)  
 FB 44 Jeff Paulk (Sr., 3); 35 Darrin Ransom (So., 0)  
 TB 21 J.R. Redmond (Jr., 2); 4 Marlon Farlow (Sr., 3)  
 WR 84 Tariq McDonald (So., 1); 81 Kenny Mitchell (Sr., 3)  
 K 10 Mike Gauthier (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (4)

DE 91 Quincy Yancy (So., 1); 50 Levi Jones (Fr., 0)  
 DT 97 Albrey Battle (Sr., 3); 96 Jewell Samilton (Jr., 0)  
 DT 95 Ryan Reilly (Jr., 1); 90 Che Britton (Jr., 1)  
 DE Erik Flowers (Jr., 0); 58 Derrick Ford (Sr., 2)  
 OLB 30 Stephen Trejo (So., 1); 40 Adam Archuleta (So., 1)  
 ILB 25 Larry Johnson (Sr., 3); 48 Cody Price (Fr., 0)  
 ILB 55 Joe Cesta (Sr., 1); 47 Eric Fields (Fr., 0)  
 CB 23 Courtney Jackson (Jr., 2); 36 Courtney Hysaw (Fr., 0)  
 CB 3 J'Juan Cherry (Jr., 1); 26 Kareem Clark (Jr., 2)  
 SS 13 Mitchell Freedman (Sr., 3); 31 Christon Rance (So., 1)  
 FS 6 Phillip Brown (Jr., 1); 28 Kyion Grayes (Fr., 0)  
 P 16 Stephen Baker (Fr., 0)

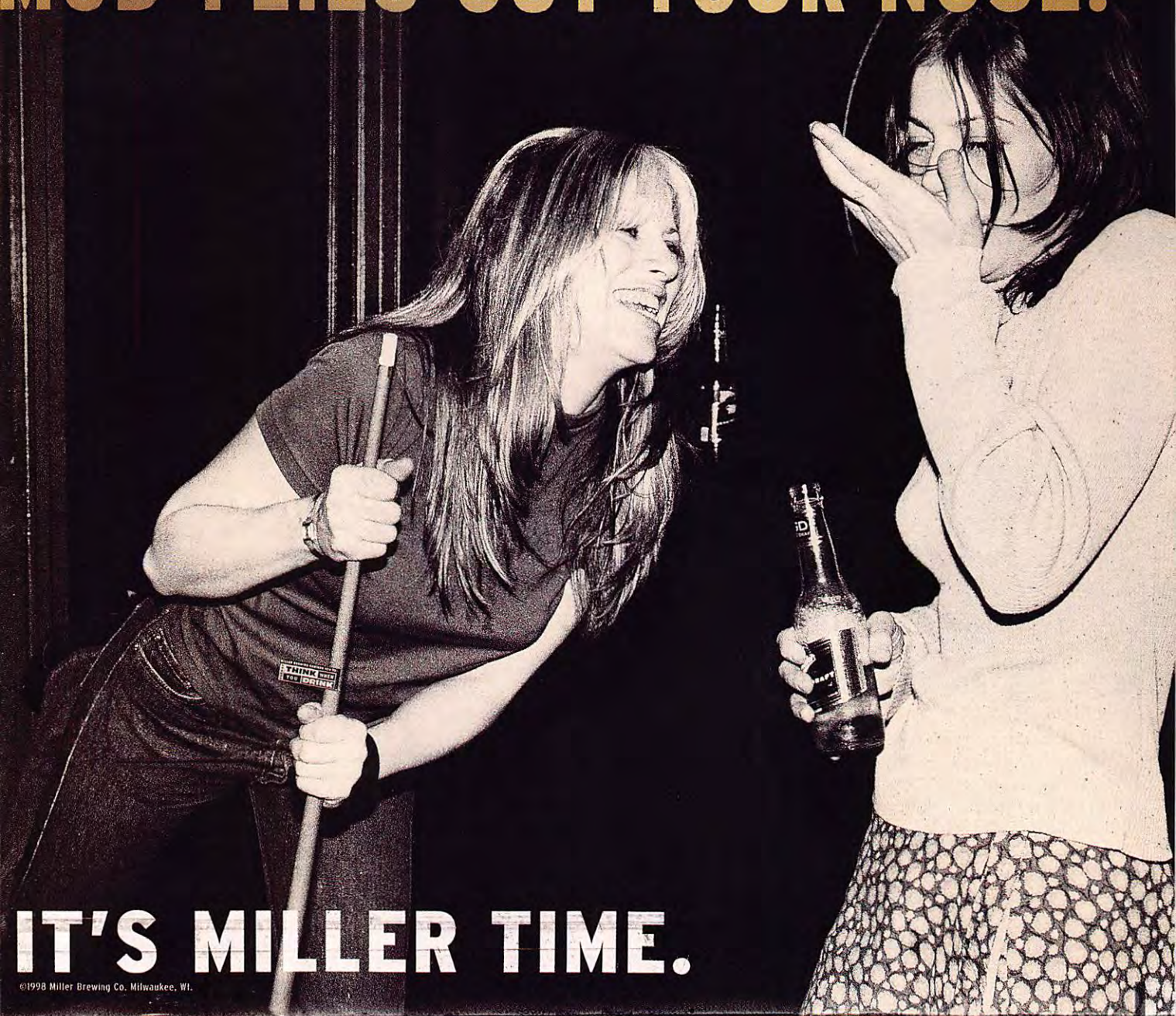
(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bruce Snyder  
 Home Field: Sun Devil Stadium (73,379)

1997 Record (Pac-10): 9-3 (6-2)  
 1998 Prediction: 1st Pac-10



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**A**t a news conference to announce he was stepping aside after 25 seasons to be replaced by Frank Solich, Tom Osborne noted that "athletics has dips and it has peaks and valleys. If I were here next year, it might be 8-3. So I just hope people understand . . . I couldn't have done any better."

Osborne wasn't making a prediction. But

power have been short-circuited by injuries, will back up Evans. The top five fullbacks return, with Joel Makovicka atop the list.

There is less opportunity for newcomers at split end and wingback than at any other position on offense. Kenny Cheatham and Matt Davison return at split end, as do Lance Brown and Shevin Wiggins at wingback. The lanky Cheatham, a much-improved blocker, tied for the team lead in pass receptions with 14, despite missing three games with a pulled quadriceps muscle. Sheldon Jackson, a deep-threat receiver, is the only experienced tight end, a position at which Nebraska typically rotates three players.

Inexperience at quarterback and I-Back is compounded by inexperience in the offensive line, where center Josh Heskew is the only returning starter. Adam Julch, Jeff Clausen, James Sherman, Matt Baldwin and Jason Schwab have the size and physical talent but have lacked the consistency essential to running the option. Injuries also have slowed Julch, Clausen and Sherman, the most experienced of the group.

Rush end Grant Wistrom and tackle Jason Peter were the heart and soul of a defense that ranked third nationally against the run last season. They will be difficult to replace. Even so, rush end is set with Mike Rucker and Chad Kelsay, who alternated on the other side. Jason Wiltz and Steve Warren alternated at nose tackle alongside Peter. Wiltz is considered slightly better as a pass rusher. Warren's strength is stuffing the run.

The linebacking again will be solid, with eight of the top nine on the Orange Bowl depth chart returning. Weak-side linebacker Eric Johnson is the only new starter, and he was in the regular rotation last season. Brian Shaw and Tony Ortiz will alternate at strong-side linebacker. Ortiz became a starter late in the season. Jay Foreman is solid in the middle, after adding 10 pounds of lean muscle mass. Carlos Polk established himself as the "bubble" linebacker, a responsibility requiring the size and strength to move up to the line of scrimmage and ward off blockers.

**85**

The Cornhuskers have posted 85 consecutive victories in games in which they have rushed for 300 or more yards.

Last season's inexperience should now pay off in the secondary. Of the top 12 DBs on the Orange Bowl depth chart, 10 are returning, led by Ralph Brown, a two-year starter and first-team All-Big 12 cornerback who already holds the Cornhusker career record for pass breakups with 21.

Rover Mike Brown (no relation to Ralph) is a textbook tackler and led Nebraska with 77 last season after moving from cornerback. Cornerback Erwin Swiney became a starter four games into his first collegiate season. Hard-hitting sophomore Clint Finley moves up at free safety.

Kris Brown already holds a majority of Nebraska's placekicking records. He was successful on his final 16 field-goal attempts last season and made 62-of-62 extra-point kicks, setting school records in both categories. Bill Lafleur punted only once last season. He's listed first on the depth chart.



Bruce Schwartzman

## Joel Makovicka

if Nebraska were to go 8-3, it would be a long first season for Solich. In Osborne's final four seasons, the Cornhuskers were a combined 49-2 with three national championships. Still, indications are, Nebraska fans need to prepare themselves for the horror of a nine-win season.

Change not only comes in the coaching ranks but at quarterback as well. Scott Frost has gone to the NFL. Sophomore Bobby Newcombe had an excellent spring and won the quarterback job, at least for now. Redshirt freshman Eric Crouch will get another look in the fall. Junior Frankie London, the most experienced quarterback, will move to wingback or cornerback.

At running back, Ahman Green's decision to bypass his final season of collegiate eligibility in favor of the NFL draft leaves Nebraska with a considerable void. The problem should be solved by the return of sophomore DeAngelo Evans after sitting out last season with a pelvic injury.

Sophomores Correll Buckhalter and Dan Alexander, whose athleticism and

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (3)

WR 6 Kenny Cheatham (Sr., 3); 3 Matt Davison (So., 1)  
 LT 69 Adam Julch (Jr., 2); 75 Kyle Kollmorgen (Fr., 0)  
 LG 63 James Sherman (Jr., 2); 61 Brandt Wade (Sr., 3)  
 C 59 Josh Heskew (Sr., 3); 51 Matt Baldwin (Jr., 1)  
 RG 72 Ben Gessford (Sr., 1); 55 Russ Hochstein (So., 1)  
 RT 65 Jason Schwab (Jr., 1); 68 Jeff Clausen (Jr., 2)  
 TE 88 Sheldon Jackson (Sr., 3); 85 T.J. DeBates (Jr., 2)  
 QB 12 Bobby Newcombe (So., 1); 7 Eric Crouch (Fr., 0)  
 FB 45 Joel Makovicka (Sr., 3); 40 Billy Legate (Sr., 3)  
 IB 4 DeAngelo Evans (So., 1); 36 Correll Buckhalter (So., 1)  
 WB 14 Lance Brown (Sr., 3); 5 Shevin Wiggins (Sr., 2)  
 K 35 Kris Brown (Sr., 3); 7 Dan Hadenfeldt (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (9)

DE 57 Chad Kelsay (Sr., 3); 83 Kyle Vanden Bosch (So., 1)  
 NT 96 Steve Warren (Jr., 2); 89 Luis Almanzar (So., 0)  
 DT 99 Jason Wiltz (Sr., 2); 91 Loran Kaiser (So., 1)  
 DE 84 Mike Rucker (Sr., 3); 92 Travis Toline (Sr., 3)  
 LB 37 Tony Ortiz (Jr., 2); 46 Brian Shaw (Jr., 2)  
 LB 44 Jay Foreman (Sr., 3); 13 Carlos Polk (So., 1)  
 LB 1 Eric Johnson (Sr., 2); 50 Julius Jackson (Jr., 2)  
 CB 16 Erwin Swiney (So., 1); 9 Khari Reynolds (So., 9)  
 CB 22 Ralph Brown (Jr., 2); 11 Jerome Peterson (Jr., 2)  
 SS 21 Mike Brown (Jr., 2); 25 Joe Walker (So., 1)  
 FS 19 Clint Finley (So., 1); 14 Dion Booker (Fr., 0)  
 P 23 Bill Lafleur (Sr., 3); 7 Dan Hadenfeldt (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

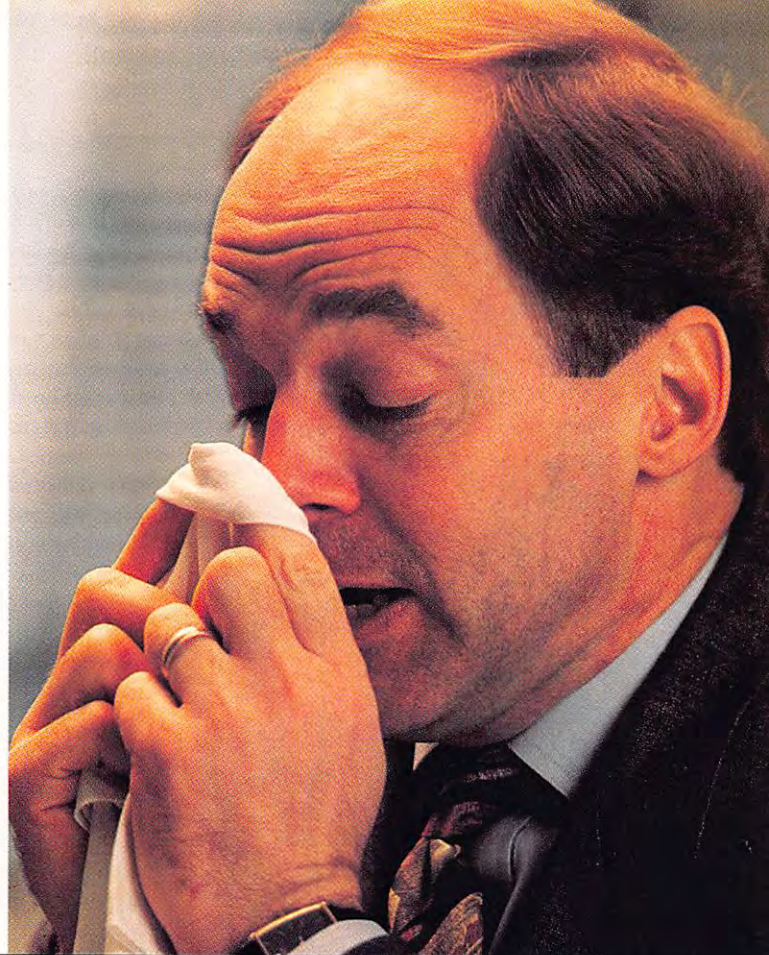
Head Coach: Frank Solich  
 Home Field: Memorial Stadium (72,700)

1997 Record (Big 12): 13-0 (8-0)  
 1998 Prediction: 2nd Big 12 North



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**E**nding 1997 with a school-record-tying 10-game winning streak has placed UCLA back among the nation's elite. The Bruins finished fifth in the country, their highest final ranking since 1982. Everyone hopes that a national championship (the school has only one in its history, the 1954 UPI title) is now a legitimate goal. Affable head coach Bob Toledo has

The Bruins will miss running back Skip Hicks' production and nose for the goal line, but the cupboard is far from bare, with talented Keith Brown and Jermaine Lewis prepared to step in. Senior fullback Craig Walendy is a bull of a blocker and a capable runner who is also a pass-catching threat (11.3-yard average on eight receptions).

Leading receiver Jim McElroy will be missed. Junior Danny Farmer, also a highly skilled volleyball player at UCLA, will take over. He has the best hands on the team, placing the third-down focus on him. Sophomore Brian Poli-Dixon reminds many of a young J.J. Stokes, and he's penciled in as the No. 1 flanker. Cody Joyce, Freddie Mitchell, Brad Melsby and newcomers Jon Dubravac and Paul Nelson round out a deep, talented set of targets for McNown.

Tight ends caught 34 balls last season, and McNown's favorite was senior Mike Grieb (249 yards and five TDs on 20 catches).

Offensive left tackle Kris Farris, a 6-9 junior, center Shawn Stuart and right guard Andy Meyers give UCLA a solid foundation up front. Right tackle Chad Overhauser could be a tough loss, considering he protected the lefty McNown's blind side. But McNown is confident that Stuart and Meyers can sufficiently tutor redshirt freshman David Wilford, or one of the incoming freshmen. Sophomore Oscar Cabrera is penciled in at left guard.

Nose guard Pete Holland is the anchor of a depleted defensive line, but aggressive sophomore Kenyon Coleman will help the pass rush from the end position. The other

end will go to Micah Webb, who has continually battled an assortment of injuries.

It took middle linebacker Brian Willmer more than two years to fully understand his role in Long's shifty, complex scheme, and now both the player and the scheme are gone. Ramogi Huma and Tony White will man the middle, and confusion could typify their first game or two. Huma is backed up by redshirt freshman Ryan Neece, the son of former 49ers great Ronnie Lott. Incoming freshmen could offer immediate assistance.

**+1.82** The team's per-game turnover margin, which was second in the nation. UCLA forced 39 turnovers and committed only 19.

Larry Atkins, the backbone of the secondary, intercepted a team-high six passes in '97 and is the leading returning tackler, with 44. The corners, however, put a gleam in Toledo's eye. After recent years with diminutive cornerbacks, UCLA welcomes sophomore Marques Anderson (6-0) and junior Jason Bell (6-1) who both relish man-to-man coverage. Junior free safety Eric Whitfield must somehow match departed rover Wasswa Serwanga's '97 numbers (11 tackles for losses, five sacks, four interceptions and five pass breakups).

Chris Sailer earned first-team All-America honors both as a punter (43.6-yard average) and as a field-goal kicker, making him the first Bruin to fulfill all three kicking duties since Frank Corral 20 years earlier.

Jermaine Lewis is the incumbent for both punt and kickoff returns. His quickness and 5-7 size make him a pest.



Peter Brouillette

## Cade McNown

made a difference. So has Cade McNown, a cagey left-handed quarterback, greatly improved during his last two seasons. Stellar recruiting should fill a key opening or two on offense.

The Bruins did lose brilliant defensive coordinator Rocky Long to his alma mater, New Mexico, and seven defensive starters. But if UCLA can win its games against defending-conference champ Washington State and Washington, that Fiesta Bowl national title game could become a reality.

McNown, the versatile Heisman Trophy favorite, led the nation with a pass efficiency rating of 168.6, 12th-best in NCAA history, and guided the team to a 29-23 victory in the Cotton Bowl, after spotting Texas A&M a 16-0 lead. Only Joe Montana ever overcame a larger Cotton deficit (22 points). McNown even converted a 76-yard quick kick against the Aggies. Most impressive are his 31 starts in a row, a UCLA record for the modern era. Obviously, McNown's health is vital to UCLA's success this season, since his backups have virtually no experience.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

**SE** 87 Danny Farmer (Jr., 2); 83 Brad Melsby (Jr., 2)  
**LT** 71 Kris Farris (Jr., 2); 66 Ed Anderson (Fr., 0)  
**LG** 59 Oscar Cabrera (So., 1); 68 Matt Phelan (Jr., 1)  
**C** 52 Shawn Stuart (Sr., 3); 50 Troy Danoff (Fr., 0)  
**RG** 78 Andy Meyers (Sr., 3); 60 Brian Polak (So., 1)  
**RT** 76 David Wilford (Fr., 0); 62 Doug Cummings (So., 0)  
**TE** 88 Mike Grieb (Sr., 3); 40 Ryan Neufeld (Sr., 3)  
**QB** 18 Cade McNown (Sr., 3); 11 Drew Bennett (So., 1)  
**FB** 39 Craig Walendy (Sr., 3); 9 Durrell Price (Jr., 2)  
**TB** 1 Keith Brown (Jr., 2); 23 Jermaine Lewis (So., 1)  
**FL** 82 Brian Poli-Dixon (So., 1); 25 Cody Joyce (Fr., 0)  
**K** 2 Chris Sailer (Sr., 3); 19 Zak Haselmo (Fr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters

**BOLD** indicates returning starters

### DEFENSE (5)

**DE** 99 Kenyon Coleman (So., 1); 72 Josh Webb (So., 1)  
**NG** 75 Pete Holland (Jr., 2); 86 Stephen Sua (Fr., 0)  
**DE** 77 Micah Webb (So., 1); 56 Trevor Turner (Jr., 2)  
**OLB** 54 Michael Wiley (Jr., 2); 95 Santi Hall (Fr., 0)  
**ILB** 36 Ramogi Huma (Jr., 2); 47 Ryan Neece (Fr., 0)  
**ILB** 51 Tony White (So., 1); 49 Cheyenne Caldwell (Sr., 3)  
**OLB** 50 Brendon Ayanbadejo (Sr., 1); 48 Ali Abdul Azziz (Jr., 1)  
**CB** 7 Marques Anderson (So., 1); 20 Damian Allen (So., 1)  
**CB** 12 Jason Bell (Jr., 2); 33 Ryan Roques (Jr., 2)  
**SS** 35 Larry Atkins (Sr., 3); 24 DuVal Hicks (Sr., 3)  
**FS** 6 Eric Whitfield (Jr., 2); 4 Jason Stephens (Fr., 0)  
**P** 2 Chris Sailer (Sr., 3)

NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bob Toledo  
 Home Field: Rose Bowl (98,636)

1997 Record (Pac-10): 10-2 (7-1)  
 1998 Prediction: 2nd Pac-10



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**T**he game has changed in Knoxville, especially the quarterback. Meet Tamaurice Nigel Martin — Tee for short. For two years, he has been the second-best quarterback at Tennessee. Now he's The Man.

Martin will get the quarterback's share of publicity but he is only one of several relatively unknown Vols who must assert them-

one of their rare first-game challenges, a trip to Syracuse.

With Manning's departure, Jamal Lewis goes from Option 2 to Option 1 in the Tennessee offense. As good as he was as a freshman, consider that he gained only 62 of his 1,364 rushing yards in the first three games. With the Vols likely to run out of the I-formation more this season, fullback Shawn Bryson should see more action.

What the Vols lack in star power at receiver, they make up for in numbers. Peerless Price and Jermaine Copeland combined for 106 receptions last season. Each considers himself a go-to receiver but their talents are different; Price has more big-play potential (he had a 52-yard touchdown reception in the win at Alabama) while Copeland is better in traffic. Tight end Eric Diogu, a junior, must develop better hands or he could lose the spot to senior Antron Peebles.

Offensive line is an area open to criticism in the last couple of years but several key players finally may have come of age. Sophomore Cosey Coleman is growing into one of the truly dominating offensive linemen in the SEC. He teams with junior Chad Clifton to give the Vols a pair of 315-pound bookend tackles.

Junior Spencer Riley and senior Mercedes Hamilton are the guards. Both improved as last season progressed. Look for senior Diron Robinson to step into the center spot vacated by Trey Teague.

Only time will tell if juniors Ratliff and Ellis will be available on the defensive front. Ratliff is trying to come back from his second major knee surgery and Ellis suffered a

serious hip injury in a car accident. If healthy, Ratliff will start at a tackle and Ellis at left end. Senior Ron Green will open at right tackle. He is especially good against the run, as is junior Darwin Walker. Corey Terry, junior Roger Alexander and sophomore DeAngelo Lloyd are the best speed-rushers. Signee John Henderson is considered the best defensive line prospect produced by the state since Reggie White.

1.5

That's the percentage of Tennessee's passing yards Tee Martin has accounted for since arriving on the Tennessee campus two years ago.

Al Wilson moves from outside linebacker to the middle. Raynoch Thompson is a fixture at one outside linebacker spot. Sophomore Eric Westmoreland is undersized but is a good fit for a defense that is built around speed. Sophomore Austin Kemp, who saw action on special teams last year, could work into the scheme on the outside.

Dwayne Goodrich had four interceptions as a sophomore last season and enters his junior year as a fixture at left cornerback. Steve Johnson, a senior, will get first shot at the other corner. Sophomore Deon Grant will start at free safety, where he could grow into a star, with junior Fred White slightly ahead of Mikki Allen at strong safety.

Kicker Jeff Hall has been a fixture for three years. He's made 141-of-147 extra points and 42-of-65 field goals. David Leaverton appears to have regained his confidence and refined his punting technique. Copeland, Goodrich and Cedrick Wilson all have experience returning kickoffs and punts last year.



Courtland Richards

## Jamal Lewis

selves if the Vols are to make any serious move toward repeating as SEC champion.

With Peyton Manning and leading receiver Marcus Nash gone to the NFL as first-round draft choices, Tennessee will get back toward run/pass balance to make maximum use of sophomore tailback Jamal Lewis and a line that is better suited to run blocking than pass protection.

But it is on defense where the Vols could see a drop-off. Six starters must be replaced and questions remain about the health and availability of the Vols' two best defensive linemen, Billy Ratliff and Shaun Ellis.

One of the few bright spots (some would say the only real bright spot) of the Vols' 42-17 loss to Nebraska in the Orange Bowl was the fourth-quarter play of Martin, who completed all four of his passes for 53 yards and also ran once for 11 yards. He has a strong arm, a sturdy body and quick feet. But it is the thing he doesn't have — experience — that is a red flag in Big Orange Country. He doesn't have the luxury of easing into the starter's role since the Vols have

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

SE 6 Jermaine Copeland (Sr., 3); 14 Cedrick Wilson (So., 1)  
LT 67 Chad Clifton (Jr., 2); 77 Josh Tucker (Jr., 2)  
LG 68 Spencer Riley (Jr., 2); 53 Toby Champion (So., 0)  
C 54 Diron Robinson (Sr., 3); 74 Bernard Gooden (So., 0)  
RG 75 Mercedes Hamilton (Sr., 3); Ethan Massa (So., 0)  
RT 52 Cosey Coleman (So., 1); 72 Jarvis Reado (Sr., 2)  
WR 37 Peerless Price (Sr., 3); 87 David Martin (So., 1)  
TE 82 Eric Diogu (Jr., 2); 98 Antron Peebles (Sr., 2)  
QB 17 Tee Martin (Jr., 2); 5 Burney Veazey (Fr., 0)  
FB 24 Shawn Bryson (Sr., 3); 45 Will Bartholomew (Fr., 0)  
RB 31 Jamal Lewis (So., 1); 25 Travis Stephens (So., 1)  
K 4 Jeff Hall (Sr., 3); 11 Robert Loudermilk (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (5)

DE 93 Shaun Ellis (Jr., 1); 99 DeAngelo Lloyd (So., 1)  
DT 58 Darwin Walker (Jr., 1); 92 Jeff Coleman (Sr., 1)  
DT 55 Ron Green (Sr., 3); 40 Billy Ratliff (Jr., 2)  
DE 22 Corey Terry (Sr., 2); 94 Ed Butler (Fr., 0)  
LB 42 Eric Westmoreland (So., 1); 48 Jerrod Hayden (So., 1)  
LB 27 Al Wilson (Sr., 3); 35 Shawn Johnson (Jr., 2)  
LB 46 Raynoch Thompson (Jr., 1); 38 Roger Alexander (Jr., 0)  
CB 23 Dwayne Goodrich (Jr., 2); 47 Maurice Fitzgerald (Fr., 0)  
CB 34 Steve Johnson (Sr., 3); 30 Andre Lott (So., 0)  
SS 2 Fred White (Jr., 2); 29 Mikki Allen (Jr., 2)  
FS 7 Deon Grant (So., 1); 18 Gerald Griffin (Jr., 2)  
P 43 David Leaverton (So., 1); Bill Hurst (Sr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Phillip Fulmer  
Home Field: Neyland Stadium (102,544)

1997 Record (SEC): 11-2 (7-1)  
1998 Prediction: 2nd SEC East



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\*Source: FBI Uniform Crime Report 1996

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The time has come for someone other than Florida State to win the Atlantic Coast Conference championship. George Welsh is going to gag when he reads this, but his Virginia Cavaliers are the team to do it. This year. They have the goods. Now all they have to do is deliver.

So Virginia didn't finish in the Top 25 last year. Ranked No. 28 by the Sagarin

just seven interceptions in an offense that runs first, throws second.

At tailback you have junior Thomas Jones, who is bigger, stronger and faster than last year when he rushed for 692 yards. Jones is the leading returning rusher in the ACC. Junior Anthony Southern, who can play either fullback or tailback, is the most likely candidate to replace Charles Kirby as Virginia's starting fullback.

Senior Terrence Wilkins is the only returning wideout who caught more than four passes. The former tailback had 37 receptions for 506 yards and four touchdowns. He also returns kickoffs and punts. Sophomore Kevin Coffey had an excellent spring. Look for Brooks to throw early and often to tight ends Casey Crawford and Billy Baber.

From left tackle to right tackle the average weight among the five projected starters is expected to be 300 pounds, a Virginia first. But do they have good feet? Can they block? Virginia quarterbacks were sacked 32 times. Not good. A year of seasoning should make Jermese Jones, Noel LaMontagne, John St. Clair, Fady Chamoun and Robert Hunt better.

Defensive coordinator Rick Lantz has said that tackles Antonio Dingle, Johnny Shivers and Maurice Anderson have first-round NFL draft potential. Dingle (6-3, 302) came closest to proving it as a junior with 48 tackles, including nine for losses, and made first-team all-conference. Strong and durable, Dingle hasn't missed a game in three years. In Virginia's 4-3 scheme, which relies on the zone blitz (dropping tackles, rushing linebackers), the ends are expected to pres-

sure the quarterback. The returning ends, senior Patrick Kerney and junior Travis Griffith, both did their part.

Everyone who started is back at linebacker. Senior Wali Rainer works the middle. His 118 tackles included nine sacks, most ever by a Cavalier linebacker. Byron Thweatt was solid in his first year earning first-team Freshman All-America honors. On the other side, ex-safety Wale Elegbe (74 tackles) and former down lineman Donny Green (51) both return.

The Cavaliers' best off-season news was provided by Anthony Poindexter, the All-America safety who decided to return to school for his final season of eligibility. Junior Dwayne Stukes, known for big plays (blocked punt, return of blocked punt for touchdown, recovered fumble for touchdown), owns one corner, while junior Antwan Harris and sophomore Tim Spruill are leading candidates at the other corner. Senior Adrian Burnim is likely to step in at the safety spot opposite Poindexter.

**\$25 mil.** Charlottesville businessman and former U.Va. football player Carl W. Smith's gift towards renovation of Scott Stadium. It's the largest gift in college football history according to the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame.



**Antonio Dingle**

computer, Virginia was the third-highest rated team not invited to a bowl game. Fourteen teams ranked below the Cavaliers received bids and went 2-12.

Welsh has the quarterback; the running backs; the heaviest offensive line in school history; a quick, experienced defense and a lot of confidence among 32 lettermen. He lost nine starters including his kicker and punter. Wideout Germane Crowell will be missed. The rest can be replaced.

There has been an infusion of new talent at Virginia. The Cavaliers used seven true freshman in 1997, the most since seven saw action in '86. Of 13 signed recruits, a handful — especially at skill positions — are expected to play this season.

Quarterback Aaron Brooks spent three seasons wondering if he'd ever get to play. Last year the answer was yes. Tall, mobile, with quick feet, he finally learned to read defenses as a junior and wound up leading the conference in passing efficiency (he finished 11th in the country). Brooks threw for 2,282 yards and 20 touchdowns with

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

WR	88 Kevin Coffey (So., 0); 81 Chris Luzar (Fr., 0)
LT	74 Jermese Jones (So., 0); 52 Josh Lawson (Fr., 0)
LG	77 Noel LaMontagne (Jr., 1); 78 Evan Routzahn (Fr., 0)
C	50 John St. Clair (Jr., 2); 70 George Seals (Jr., 0)
RG	57 Fady Chamoun (Sr., 1); 71 Brad Barnes (So., 0)
RT	60 Robert Hunt (Sr., 2); 75 Dustin Keith (So., 0)
TE	86 Casey Crawford (Jr., 2); 87 Billy Baber (So., 1)
QB	11 Aaron Brooks (Sr., 2); 16 Dan Ellis (So., 0)
FB	25 Anthony Southern (Jr., 2); 44 Patrick Washington (So., 1)
RB	6 Thomas Jones (Jr., 2); 42 Tyree Foreman (Fr., 0)
WR	7 Terrence Wilkins (Sr., 3); 80 Ahmad Hawkins (So., 1)
K	5 Todd Braverman (So., 0); 9 David Greene (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (9)

DE	95 Travis Griffith (Jr., 2); 39 Andreas Karellis (Jr., 2)
DT	99 Johnny Shivers (Sr., 3); 55 Kofi Bawuah (So., 0)
DT	89 Antonio Dingle (Sr., 3); 85 Maurice Anderson (Jr., 3)
DE	58 Patrick Kerney (Sr., 3); 39 Andreas Karellis (Jr., 2)
LB	22 Wale Elegbe (Jr., 2); 33 Donny Green (So., 1)
LB	44 Wali Rainer (Sr., 3); 18 Yubrenal Isabelle (So., 0)
LB	32 Byron Thweatt (So., 1); 9 Shannon Taylor (Jr., 2)
CB	5 Dwayne Stukes (Jr., 2); 4 Jason Small (So., 0)
CB	26 Antwan Harris (Jr., 2); 1 Tim Spruill (So., 0)
S	3 Anthony Poindexter (Sr., 3); 38 Duane Fisher (So., 0)
S	37 Adrian Burnim (Sr., 2); 14 Devon Simmons (Fr., 0)
P	82 Mike Abrams (Fr., 0); 90 Donald Scott (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: George Welsh  
Home Field: Scott Stadium (40,000)

1997 Record (ACC): 7-4 (5-3)  
1998 Prediction: 2nd ACC



**C**olorado State coach Sonny Lubick and his staff figured that if the Rams could just play decently and keep improving last season, they would become primed for a big 1998.

So what did the Rams do? They turned into clearly the WAC's best team in 1997. They ran roughshod over Mountain Division champion New Mexico 41-13 for the

straight-ahead style, junior fullback Kevin McDougal averaged 7.4 yards in 132 carries for 13 touchdowns, while senior Damon Washington posted a second consecutive 1,000-yard season.

The Rams must replace the unrelated combination of Paul and Geoff Turner, but they have no shortage of receivers. Junior Darran Hall made the most of his 21 catches, averaging 23 yards per reception and scoring five touchdowns. Corey McCoy, who improved late in the season, logged time as a true freshman. Tight end is an issue, mostly because the Rams will miss Eli Workman's blocking.

Fairchild likes to use two and three tight ends in some alignments and is as concerned about this position as quarterback. As proof, the only junior college player CSU recruited was tight end Leon Smith. Senior Derrek Uhl is the likely starter, in any case.

Colorado State's offensive line story starts with strong-side guard Anthony Cesario, an All-WAC Pacific Division first-team senior. Sophomore Nick Schaumburg has game experience and is the front-runner at strong-side tackle. Senior Mike Newell lines up at center and is as good as any lineman in the WAC, according to Fairchild, and that includes Cesario. Junior weak-side tackle Blane Saipaia is often overshadowed by some of his line mates but might be the best athlete in the group.

On the defensive line, junior Clark Haggans recorded 11 sacks and 61 tackles, and is known for competing hard all the time, and senior Joey Porter is fast and athletic

enough to play in the secondary. Junior left tackle Rob Cieslinski has overcome several knee surgeries to emerge as a tough run-stopper, and sophomore Jamie Bennett was the surprise of the line at right tackle, sharing time with junior Greg Pollard.

The linebacking area is not unlike running back for the Rams. There are more outstanding veteran players than there are positions to play them. Outside, senior Nate Kvamme paced the team with 10 tackles a game, and Rick Crowell is big and fast. In the middle, senior Willie Taylor is a tough competitor. Junior Ula Tuitele would start somewhere if not for the presence of the other three.

**59** The Rams scored 59 touchdowns in 12 games last season, an average of nearly five a game. Their 442 points included only 10 field goals, as they regularly finished off drives.

Senior free safety Myron Terry is the secondary's leader and intercepted six passes. Junior strong safety Erik Olson is a big hitter who also broke up 11 passes. Senior Dennis Randle caught on as a junior college transfer and returns in one corner. J'Sharlon Jones, a junior who excelled on special teams; Thal Woods, who has all the skills; and Andy Engelstad are all in the hunt for the other cornerback job.

Even with the WAC's best offense, the Rams will have to punt occasionally. Wide receiver Brad Svoboda has done some punting and Lubick is searching for walk-ons. Senior Derek Franz won the placekicking job in the middle of last season. Hall and Davis will be dangerous on punt and kick-off returns.



John Betancourt

## Kevin McDougal

conference title, defeated Missouri in the Holiday Bowl and finished 11-2. All that gives CSU a lot to live up to this year.

They have a chance to add significantly to that momentum in the season opener against Colorado. A home game for the Rams, the site has been changed from Hughes Stadium in Fort Collins (capacity 30,000) to a huge stadium, Mile High in Denver, where a far greater crowd can witness the clash for state bragging rights.

All the factors that made Colorado State point to this season remain intact.

At quarterback, thanks to Moses Moreno, Ryan Eslinger has waited four years for the chance to lead the Rams. If anybody wondered about Eslinger's competitiveness and athletic ability, those questions were answered on one play in the Holiday Bowl. As the holder for a field-goal attempt, he took the snap and charged right up the middle for a touchdown.

This is almost unfair. Colorado State uses a one-back scheme and has two of the WAC's best backs. With a rumbling,

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

WR 83 Darran Hall (Jr., 1); 27 Dallas Davis (So., 1)  
 LT 61 Blane Saipaia (Jr., 2); 77 Jason Koontz (Fr., 0)  
 LG 79 Justin Borvansky (So., 0); 68 Broderick Lancaster (Fr., 0)  
 C 64 Mike Newell (Sr., 3); 66 Craig Brooks (Fr., 0)  
 RG 72 Anthony Cesario (Sr., 3); 67 Donnie Forbes (Jr., 0)  
 RT 75 Nick Schaumburg (So., 1); 63 Tim Stuber (So., 1)  
 TE 86 Derrek Uhl (Sr., 3); 92 Frank Kulis (So., 1)  
 QB 12 Ryan Eslinger (Sr., 2); 16 Matt Newton (So., 0)  
 RB 39 Duan Ruff (Fr., 0); 17 Dwayne Long (So., 0)  
 FB 20 Damon Washington (Sr., 3); 36 Kevin McDougal (Jr., 2)  
 WR 18 Corey McCoy (Sr., 1); 25 Frank Rice (So., 1)  
 K 14 Derek Franz (Sr., 1)

### DEFENSE (10)

DE 8 Joey Porter (Sr., 3); 35 Eric Vaughn (Sr., 3)  
 DT 95 Rob Cieslinski (Jr., 2); 76 Mike Mackenzie (So., 1)  
 DT 54 Jamie Bennett (So., 1); 90 Greg Pollard (Jr., 2)  
 DE 96 Clark Haggans (Jr., 2); 58 Geoff Graue (Fr., 0)  
 LB 3 Nate Kvamme (Sr., 3); 46 Tony Colacion (Fr., 0)  
 LB 45 Willie Taylor (Sr., 3); 42 Ula Tuitele (Jr., 2)  
 LB 6 Rick Crowell (Jr., 2); 50 Lucas Mallory (So., 1)  
 CB 24 J'Sharlon Jones (Jr., 2); 19 Thal Woods (Fr., 0)  
 CB 10 Dennis Randle (Sr., 1); 30 Andy Engelstad (So., 1)  
 SS 28 Erik Olson (Jr., 2); 38 John Howell (Jr., 2)  
 FS 2 Myron Terry (Sr., 3); 9 Terrence Gibson (So., 1)  
 P 47 Josh Skidmore (Fr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Sonny Lubick  
 Home Field: Hughes Stadium (30,000)

1997 Record (WAC): 11-2 (7-1)  
 1998 Prediction: 1st WAC Mountain



In 1997, Texas A&M re-established residence in the same vicinity as college football's big boys. Now, the Aggies plan to pick fights with the biggest bullies on the block.

With plenty of returning firepower, especially at skill positions, the Aggies should return to the Big 12 title game. But opening with FSU, possibly playing Nebraska twice

Parker split out. Also in the mix is talented Eric Bernard, who redshirted last season.

The Aggies are loaded at fullback, too. Marc Broyles is the best blocker in the A&M backfield, while the bullish D'Andre Hardeman is tough in short yardage situations.

The group of receivers and tight ends A&M has assembled may be the most talented ever. Chris Cole and Leroy Hodge will turn in the big plays, while Matt Bumgardner and Aaron Oliver are prime possession receivers. At tight end, gifted Derrick Spiller, possibly the best in the Big 12, is noted for turning short receptions into big gains.

The offensive line is a big concern with three starters gone. But one name will be familiar. Redshirt freshman Seth McKinney, younger brother of A&M's best '97 lineman Steve McKinney, could start at center and has great potential. Also in the lineup are guard Andy Vincent and tackle Rex Tucker. Both saw considerable playing time last year.

Returning starters are guard Semisi Heimuli, a powerful drive blocker (he's started all of A&M's games in the last two years) and tackle Cameron Spikes, who may be the strongest player on the team.

The Aggies also lost three starters from the defensive line. But in 1997, A&M signed perhaps its most talented class of defensive linemen in history. Based on physical tools, this A&M line will certainly be quicker than the 1997 group.

Rocky Bernard and Ronald Flemons most likely will be at the ends with Ron Edwards at nose tackle. All three gained

valuable playing time as true freshmen. Sophomore Stephen Young should play a significant role in '98.

More good news. "Linebacker U" of the southwest is back in business, again loaded with talent and with a leading All-America candidate. Relentless and consistent, Dat Nguyen needs just 86 stops to become A&M's all-time leading tackler, quite an accomplishment given the Aggies' legacy at linebacker. Joining Nguyen inside is Sean Coryatt, the athletic younger brother of the Indianapolis Colts' Quentin Coryatt. On the outside, Warrick Holdman is a strong tackler, while on the other side Roylin Bradley and Chris Thierry are outstanding pass rushers.

**+1.50** After being devastated by turnovers in 1996, the '97 Aggies led the Big 12 and finished third in the nation in turnover margin with a +1.50 per game average.



## Dat Nguyen

and playing a minimum of seven teams with '97 winning records may be asking too much of a team on the rise, but not yet back in college football's high-rent district.

Quarterback Brannndon Stewart lost the starter's job to Randy McCown prior to the Texas Tech game, but reclaimed it during that game when he calmly directed A&M to a comeback win over Oklahoma State and led the Aggies to a 4-0 record in November. Stewart could be in store for a sensational final season, but if he stumbles, the Aggies feel confident in inserting McCown, who alternated series with Stewart during the first six games of 1997.

In the backfield, A&M's cup runneth over. The Aggies' backs run and catch with equal skill. Shifty Dante Hall is one of the most dangerous backs in the Big 12. Despite missing the majority of two games, Hall led the Big 12 by averaging 7.3 yards per carry. The talent doesn't drop off when Hall exits. Senior Sirr Parker has breakaway speed and excellent hands. Hall and Parker are frequently used at the same time, with

Moses Omos

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

WR 16 Aaron Oliver (Sr., 3); 80 Chris Cole (Jr., 1)  
 LT 53 Rex Tucker (Sr., 3); 74 Brandon Houston (Sr., 3)  
 LG 78 Andy Vincent (Jr., 2); 56 Toby McCarthy (So., 0)  
 C 77 Seth McKinney (Fr., 0); 53 Rex Tucker (Sr., 3)  
 RG 62 Semisi Heimuli (Jr., 2); 79 Shea Holder (Jr., 1)  
 RT 73 Cameron Spikes (Sr., 3); 78 Andy Vincent (Jr., 2)  
 TE 87 Derrick Spiller (Sr., 3); 89 Dan Campbell (Sr., 3)  
 QB 7 Brannndon Stewart (Sr., 2); 15 Randy McCown (Jr., 2)  
 TB 34 Dante Hall (Jr., 2); 8 Sirr Parker (Sr., 3)  
 FB 33 Marc Broyles (Sr., 3); 20 D'Andre Hardeman (Sr., 3)  
 WR 88 Leroy Hodge (Jr., 2); 81 Matt Bumgardner (Jr., 2)  
 K 37 Russell Bynum (So., 0); 17 Terence Kitchens (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 95 Rocky Bernard (So., 1); 92 Mike Kazmierski (Jr., 1)  
 NG 96 Ron Edwards (So., 1); 90 Stephen Young (So., 1)  
 DE 99 Ronald Flemons (So., 1); 57 Kevin Vestal (Jr., 0)  
 OLB 43 Warrick Holdman (Sr., 3); 23 Jason Glenn (So., 1)  
 ILB 44 Sean Coryatt (Jr., 2); 46 Cornelius Anthony (So., 1)  
 ILB 9 Dat Nguyen (Sr., 3); 46 Cornelius Anthony (So., 1)  
 OLB 40 Roylin Bradley (So., 1); 58 Chris Thierry (Jr., 2)  
 CB 39 Jason Webster (Jr., 2); 1 Michael Jameson (So., 1)  
 CB 21 Shun Horn (Sr., 3); 18 Sedrick Curry (Jr., 2)  
 SS 48 Rich Coady (Sr., 3); 36 Ronald Patton (So., 1)  
 FS 30 Brandon Jennings (Jr., 2); 5 Toya Jones (Sr., 3)  
 P 6 Shane Lechler (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: R. C. Slocum  
 Home Field: Kyle Field (70,210)

1997 Record (Big 12): 9-3 (6-2)  
 1998 Prediction: 1st Big 12 South





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**B**racketed between humbling losses in the Kickoff Classic and the Outback Bowl, Wisconsin coach Barry Alvarez's young team grew up. The measure of their maturity, which took Wisconsin to an 8-5 season, will be taken this fall.

Wisconsin was the Big Ten's youngest team last season, featuring 61 freshmen and sophomores among 85 on scholarship. The

Running back is secured. Despite being hounded by injuries, Dayne still ran for 1,457 yards to put together one of the most prolific two-year totals in college football history. Only one player in NCAA history has rushed for more regular-season yardage in his first two years than Dayne's 3,284: Georgia's Herschel Walker. Senior fullback Cecil Martin excels as a blocking back.

Wide receiver is another offensive headache for Alvarez, but it's also a chance to prove whether he has recruited well. The Badgers lost flanker Tony Simmons and split end Donald Hayes, plus backup Kevin Huntley. They accounted for 51 percent of UW's receptions and 61 percent of the receiving yardage. There is raw talent but not many receivers who have made plays.

Junior Ahmad Merritt had three receptions last year. Sophomores Rasheed Golden and Chris Chambers could see extended action.

Things are thinner at tight end after Ryan Sondrop's career-ending knee injury, but senior starter Eric Grams has been steady.

An inexperienced interior line in 1997 translates into a young, more savvy bunch for 1998. Center Casey Rabach and guards Dave Costa and Bill Ferrario started every game in 1997 as redshirt freshmen and turned in solid performances, with Rabach drawing freshman All-America honors. Tackles Chris McIntosh and Aaron Gibson provide girth.

After holding their first nine opponents to an average of 141 rushing yards, the Badgers gave up an average of 191 yards in their last four games, perhaps a sign of fatigue.

The strength of the line is its ends, Tom Burke and John Favret. Burke, the Badgers' MVP, has developed into one of the Big Ten's best pass rushers. Sophomore tackle Ross Kolodziej and sophomore nose guard Chris Janek hold down the inside spots.

Junior Chris Ghidorzi and sophomore Roger Knight will vie for one inside spot. At the other inside position, things are secure in the hands of junior Donnel Thompson. Senior Bob Adamov made 62 tackles, including 10 for losses, and plays outside.

**43.9**

The average yardage per punt booted by Kevin Stemke as a freshman, setting a school record. Stemke was 13th nationally in punting average, and had the Big Ten's best rookie mark since Ohio State's Tom Tupa set the NCAA freshman record in 1984.

One of Alvarez's top concerns is a painful lack of experience at cornerback. Both starters have gone, though sophomore Donte King started four games as a true freshman. Redshirt freshman Mike Echols will compete with King for the boundary corner. At the field corner, redshirt freshman Jamar Fletcher, who boasts 4.45 speed in the 40, has the inside track and will be challenged by junior Onjai Bryant. Former walk-on Jason Doering will compete at both safety positions. Senior Leonard Taylor is likely to start at strong safety, while junior Bobby Myers will challenge at free safety.

Davenport, a senior, converted on 82.4 percent of his field goal attempts. Stemke, a sophomore, averaged better than 40 yards per punt in 11 games, and more than 50 yards twice. True freshman Conroy Whyte could liven things up in the return game.



Courtland Richards

## Ron Dayne

upside is that Alvarez returns 17 starters, nine on offense and eight on defense, not to mention All-Big Ten placekicker Matt Davenport and punter Kevin Stemke.

Alvarez faces his biggest challenges in plugging holes at both wide receiver spots and both cornerbacks and must identify a steady performer at quarterback. Countering those worries, the Badgers have junior tailback Ron Dayne, one of the most explosive offensive weapons in college football.

Productivity at the quarterback position has Alvarez fretful going into 1998. On hand is two-year starter Mike Samuel, but the Badgers haven't handed him the job. Samuel's last four games were a struggle, and he was picked off six times and went 8 for 27 in the 33-6 Outback Bowl loss to Georgia. For the season, Samuel had eight scoring passes and 11 interceptions.

Late in the bowl game rout, junior backup Scott Kavanagh caught the staff's eye by completing six of nine attempts for 76 yards and a touchdown and will get serious consideration.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

SE	1	Ahmad Merritt (Jr., 2); 23 Rasheed Golden (So., 1)
LT	75	Chris McIntosh (Jr., 2); 74 Mark Tauscher (Jr., 1)
LG	60	Bill Ferrario (So., 1); 73 Joe Gribowski (So., 1)
C	70	Casey Rabach (So., 1); 53 Rob Roell (Jr., 1)
RG	54	Dave Costa (So., 1); 76 Josh Jakubowski (So., 1)
RT	79	Aaron Gibson (Sr., 2); 66 Pat Daley (Jr., 1)
TE	89	Eric Grams (Sr., 3); 87 Dague Retzlaff (So., 1)
FL	88	Chris Chambers (So., 1); 17 Demetrius Brown (Jr., 2)
QB	10	Mike Samuel (Sr., 3); 12 Scott Kavanagh (Jr., 2)
FB	37	Cecil Martin (Sr., 3); 48 Rob Christen (So., 1)
RB	33	Ron Dayne (Jr., 2); 4 Eddie Faulkner (So., 1)
K	28	Matt Davenport (Sr., 1); 20 Vitaly Pisetsky (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (8)

DE	74	Tom Burke (Sr., 3); 50 Donny Eicher (Jr., 2)
DT	78	Ross Kolodziej (So., 1); 94 George Pratt (Fr., 0)
NG	58	Chris Janek (Jr., 2); 71 Eric Mahlik (So., 1)
DE	96	John Favret (So., 1); 92 Brandon Williams (Sr., 2)
LB	16	Chris Ghidorzi (Jr., 2); 19 Roger Knight (So., 1)
LB	44	Donnel Thompson (Jr., 2); 5 Ed Hartwell (So., 1)
LB	29	Bob Adamov (Sr., 3); 43 Delante McGrew (Fr., 0)
CB	24	Donte King (So., 1); 36 Mike Echols (Fr., 0)
CB	42	Jamar Fletcher (Fr., 0); 3 Onjai Bryant (Jr., 2)
SS	34	Leonard Taylor (Sr., 3); 15 Tim Rosga (Jr., 2)
FS	8	Jason Doering (So., 1); 26 Bobby Myers (Jr., 2)
P	14	Kevin Stemke (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Barry Alvarez  
Home Field: Camp Randall (77,745)

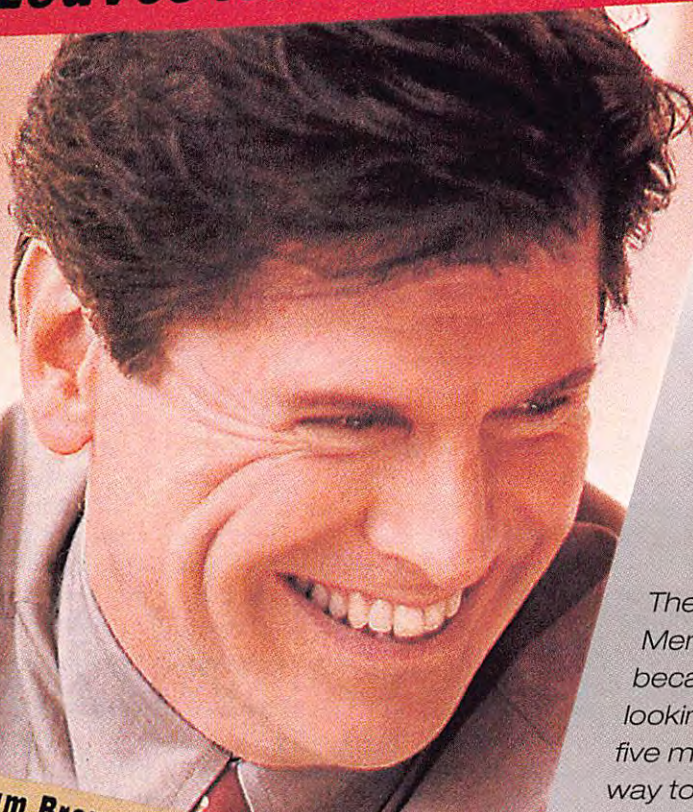
1997 Record (Big 10): 8-5 (5-3)  
1998 Prediction: 3rd Big 10



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**D**ick Tomey has coached Arizona to seven winning seasons over the last nine years, only once falling out of the Pacific-10 Conference's first division. But he enters the 1998 season in the final year of his contract, under some strain to challenge for the league title. Attendance at Arizona Stadium dropped to 40,538 last season, lowest at the school since 1975.



**Ortege Jenkins**

The message sent by Wildcat fans was that they will no longer support mediocre football. Arizona has had two losing seasons in the '90s and has been 6-5 twice.

How the Wildcats perform early should not only determine ticket sales for Arizona's five late-season home games, but Tomey's future as well. With a strong returning quarterback duo, things appear bright for Arizona's football squad.

Try to figure this one out: Arizona has never had an All-Pac-10 quarterback, yet enters the 1998 season with two returning starters who could contend for that honor. Sophomore Ortege Jenkins threw 19 touchdown passes in the final seven games. He replaced junior Keith Smith, who was injured early in the season.

Sophomore Leon Callen is the first *Parade* All-America tailback recruited to Arizona. He missed 1997 with a knee injury, but excited Wildcat fans with a 116-yard rushing performance against UCLA as a freshman. In Callen's absence, former

defensive back Trung Canidate took over and gained 804 yards in five starts.

Tomey says that senior Jeremy McDaniel was the best wide receiver Arizona faced in 1997. And that was in practice. McDaniel redshirted while tending to academic matters. He led the Wildcats in 1996 with 31 receptions, including a school record 14 at California. McDaniel is tall and physical.

Arizona's fastest receiver is junior Dennis Northcutt, a reliable big-play maker who caught 58 passes last year. The group is further aided by senior tight end Mike Lucky, a three-year starter.

Nowhere are the Wildcats more suspect than on the offensive line. Starting guard Yusuf Scott and senior tackle Edwin Mulitalo are the only linemen who played extensively last year. Both are in excess of 320 pounds and possess All-Pac-10 potential. Sophomore center Bruce Wiggins and junior college transfer tackle Manuia Savea won starting jobs in spring practice. One freshman who could contribute immediately is center Rockne Freitas from Honolulu, who is as coveted as any lineman the Wildcats have acquired.

Gone are three multi-year starters on the defensive line, Joe Salave'a, Jimmy Sprotte and Mike Szlauko. Defensive coordinator Rich Ellerson spent the spring sorting through possible replacements and says he likes sophomores Joe Tafoya and Idris Haroon on the outside and Anthony Thomas at nose guard. All played well at times as freshmen. Three-year regular Daniel Greer is a useful player though a bit small. Ellerson believes he had a strong recruiting year and transfers Terrell

Jurineack and Mike Robertson have a chance to earn playing time.

Junior Marcus Bell emerged in '97 as a force at inside linebacker, making 80 tackles. He's joined by junior outside linebacker DaShon Polk, who started all 12 games. Junior inside linebacker Stadford Glover seems destined to be an impact player, with speed and size to be a force.

Cornerback Chris McAlister, twice an all-conference selection, could become a consensus All-American. Athletic, strong and fast, he has intercepted 10 passes in two seasons. The situation elsewhere in the secondary is not as promising, with three new starters needed. Arizona is likely to use junior Kelvin Hunter at cornerback.

Rafell Jones was playing baseball for the Wildcats during spring drills and jeopardized his chance at the free safety job. Freshmen Jimmy Ray Brown and Manuel Golden are superior athletes, both challenging for spots in the secondary. The strong safety spot is contested by senior LaChaux Rich, a three-year letterman, and former tailback Scooter Sprotte.

**402** The average total offense for Arizona in 1997, the first time since 1975 that a Wildcat offense has reached the 400-yards-per-game plateau.

The specialists were the flaw that unraveled Arizona last year. Tomey has changed his coaching assignments, putting Ellerson back in charge of special teams. Punters Chris Palic and Ryan Springston failed to average 40 yards a kick last year but are in contention for the job. Placekicking, which was poor last year, goes to transfer Michael Johnson.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

WR	15	Jeremy McDaniel (Sr., 1); 19 Brandon Nash (So., 1)
LT	79	Edwin Mulitalo (Sr., 1); 74 Ega Usu (Jr., 0)
LG	66	Steven Grace (Fr., 0); 71 Marques McFadden (So., 0)
C	70	Bruce Wiggins (So., 1); Rockne Freitas (Fr., 0)
RG	72	Yusuf Scott (Jr., 2); 73 Bryan Kula (Fr., 0)
RT	67	Manuia Savea (Jr., 0); 84 Makai Freitas (So., 1)
QB	68	Mike Lucky (Sr., 3); 90 Brandon Manumaleuna (So., 1)
TE	16	Ortege Jenkins (So., 1); 12 Keith Smith (Jr., 2)
RB	30	Trung Canidate (Jr., 2); 29 Leon Callen (So., 1)
RB	38	Kelvin Eafon (Sr., 2); 28 William Blocker (So., 1)
WR	8	Dennis Northcutt (Jr., 2); 13 Brad Brennan (Jr., 2)
K		Michael Johnson (Jr., 0); 39 Mark McDonald (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (4)

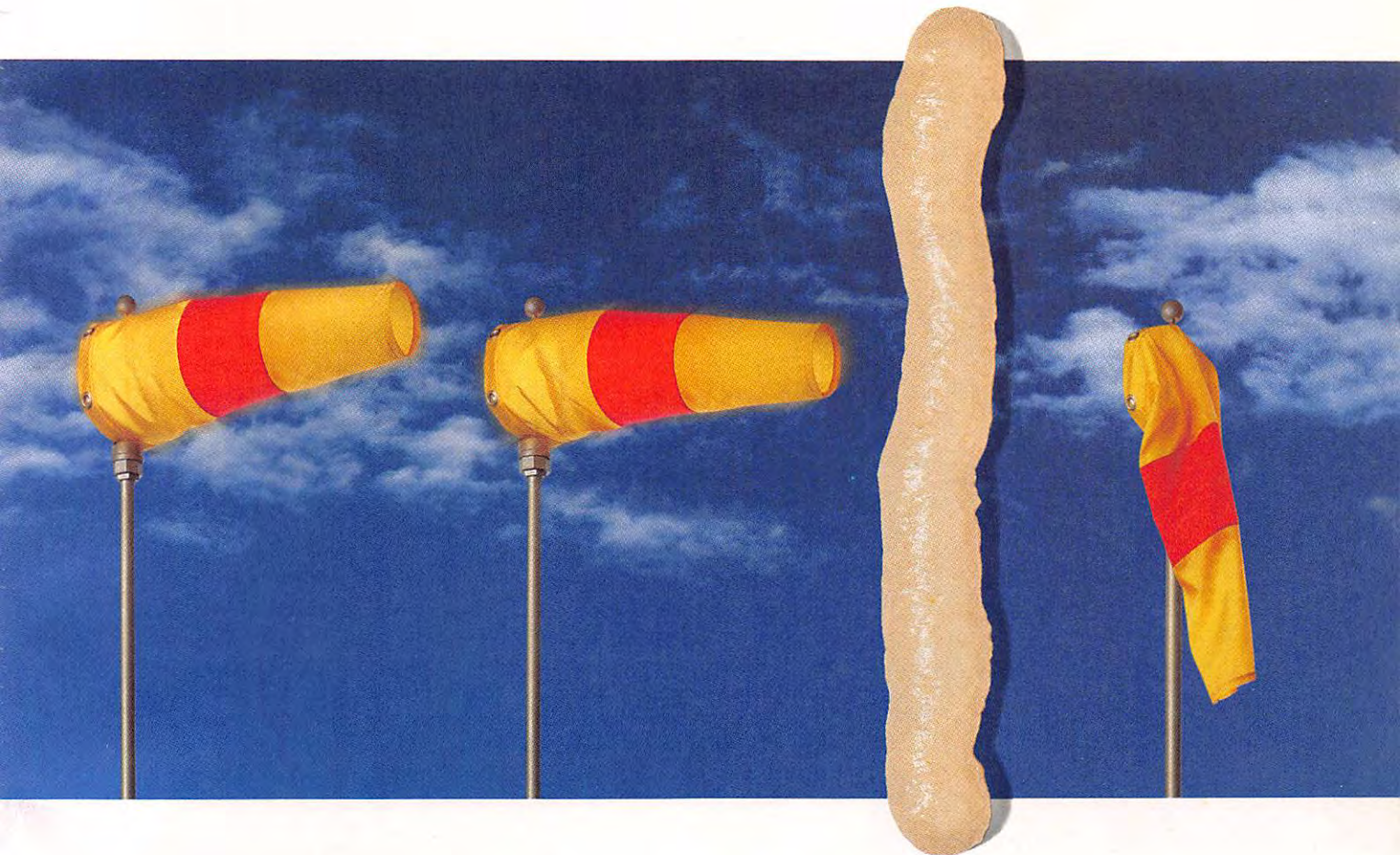
DE	99	Joe Tafoya (So., 1); 91 Eli Wnek (Fr., 0)
DT	48	Daniel Greer (Sr., 3); 97 J.J. Joppru (Jr., 0)
DE	58	Anthony Thomas (So., 1); 51 Dolphin Tillman (Jr., 2)
DT	87	Idris Haroon (So., 1); 81 Ash Burrows (Jr., 0)
OLB	31	DaShon Polk (Jr., 2); 54 Alex Luna (Fr., 0)
ILB	40	Marcus Bell (Jr., 2); 41 Reggie Hardy (Fr., 0)
ILB	46	Stadford Glover (Jr., 1); 52 Adrian Koch (So., 1)
CB	5	Kelvin Hunter (Jr., 2); 20 Manuel Golden (Fr., 0)
CB	11	Chris McAlister (Sr., 2); Greg Payne (Jr., 0)
SS	2	LaChaux Rich (Sr., 3); 6 Scooter Sprotte (Jr., 2)
FS	1	Rafell Jones (Jr., 2); Jimmy Ray Brown (Fr., 0)
P	17	Ryan Springston (Sr., 1); 4 Chris Palic (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach:** Dick Tomey  
**Home Field:** Arizona Stadium (57,803)

**1997 Record (Pac-10):** 7-5 (4-4)  
**1998 Prediction:** 3rd Pac-10





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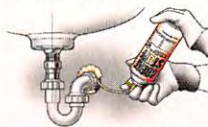
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**G**eorgia coach Jim Donnan lives by one philosophy. "Things are never as good as they seem and never as bad as they seem," he says.

Things certainly weren't as bad as they appeared in 1996, when the Bulldogs limped to a 5-6 record in Donnan's rookie campaign at Georgia. Donnan's second year, however, was very good, producing the



Courtland Richards

## Champ Bailey

program's first 10-2 season since 1992 with a 33-6 win over Wisconsin in the Outback Bowl. The Bulldogs ended a seven-year losing streak with a 37-17 win over the defending national champion Florida Gators, and beat archrival Georgia Tech for the seventh straight year with a come-from-behind, 27-24 win. After losing 14-of-24 regulars from last season's squad, though, are things really as good as they now seem?

A look at quarterback shows that things could go either way. Georgia hasn't had a controversy since 1991, but that's what the Bulldogs are anticipating after the graduation of Mike Bobo. Junior Jon England and sophomore Mike Usry are the most experienced quarterbacks, but the pair has combined to throw only 12 passes. The most intriguing option is former *Parade* All-American Quincy Carter, who originally signed with Georgia Tech in 1996 before opting for professional baseball. The freshman could grab the starting job.

Georgia returned to its Tailback-U roots last season, averaging 169.9 yards per game

to finish second in the SEC in rushing. Hard-nosed senior Olandis Gary, a Marshall transfer, rushed for 381 yards and seven touchdowns as a backup in 11 games.

The Bulldogs could be strong in the backfield again if junior Patrick Pass or former *Parade* All-American Jasper Sanks, who attended prep school last season, step up.

The Bulldogs lost their top two wideouts, Hines Ward and Corey Allen, to graduation, but Donnan expects to fill the gaps with talented senior Tony Small, the team's most underrated player last season, who finished with 26 catches. Sophomore Michael Greer is a bit undersized, but seems to catch every ball thrown near him. Champ Bailey had limited action at wideout as a sophomore, and the starting left cornerback will see more time on offense. Georgia could have the SEC's best 1-2 punch at tight end in seniors Larry Brown and Jermaine Wiggins, who combined for 31 catches and four scores last season.

The offensive line was a big reason for Georgia's unexpected success last season. The Bulldogs have a pair of potential high NFL draft picks in senior tackles Matt Stinchcomb and Chris Terry. Junior Steve Herndon, a part-time starter, returns at left guard, and versatile sophomore Jonas Jennings could start at either right guard or center. Senior Kelvin Williams, junior Miles Luckie and sophomore Reginald Stargill give the Bulldogs adequate depth.

The defensive line is perhaps the Bulldogs' most talented unit. Junior college transfers Emarlos Leroy and Antonio Cochran are poised to flourish after

promising junior seasons. Junior Brandon Miller returns and will battle talented sophomore Richard Seymour for the starting job at Buck end. Senior Paul Snellings could be Georgia's top run-stopper at Bandit tackle.

Georgia lost the heart of its linebacking corps in departed seniors Greg Bright and Brandon Tolbert. Junior Orantes Grant was the Bulldogs' second-leading tackler with 81 total stops a year ago. Sophomore Adrian Hollingshed is a potential starter in the middle after playing in all 11 games last season. Junior Dustin Luckie is the leading candidate at the other outside spot.

**12** The total number of passes thrown by Georgia's six scholarship quarterbacks. Junior Jon England and sophomore Mike Usry are the only signal callers who have any game experience.

Bailey is being described as Georgia's best defensive back since two-time All-American Terry Hoage in 1980-83. Senior Glenn Ford is the leading candidate at the other cornerback spot. Senior free safety Kirby Smart tied for second in the SEC with six interceptions last season, and juniors Earl Chambers and Robert Arnaud are the leading candidates at strong safety.

Junior Hap Hines has hit 14-of-21 field goals in his career, but struggled with range last season. Junior Chad Holleman could be a factor if Donnan opens up the job. Backup quarterback Jon England and incoming freshman Nate Hybl are the lead candidates for the punting position. Bailey is one of the top kick returners in the SEC. Sophomore Michael Greer was fifth in the league on punt returns.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

SE	9 Tony Small (Sr., 2); 3 Thad Parker (So., 1)
LT	<b>79 Matt Stinchcomb (Sr., 3); 61 Kelvin Williams (Sr., 0)</b>
LG	73 Steve Herndon (Jr., 2); 52 Brad Register (So., 1)
C	59 Miles Luckie (Jr., 1); 57 Josh Kerr (Fr., 0)
RG	75 Jonas Jennings (So., 1); 63 Reginald Stargill (So., 1)
RT	<b>70 Chris Terry (Sr., 3); 55 Brady Pate (So., 1)</b>
TE	<b>87 Larry Brown (Sr., 3); 89 Jermaine Wiggins (Sr., 1)</b>
FL	36 Michael Greer (So., 1); 13 LaBrone Mitchell (Fr., 0)
QB	8 Jon England (Jr., 1); 15 Mike Usry (So., 0)
RB	<b>22 Olandis Gary (Sr., 1); 25 Ronnie Bradley (Sr., 1)</b>
RB	6 Patrick Pass (Jr., 2); 39 Brett Millican (So., 1)
K	<b>41 Hap Hines (Jr., 2); 27 Chad Holleman (Jr., 0)</b>

### DEFENSE (5)

DE	51 Brandon Miller (Jr., 2); 93 Richard Seymour (So., 1)
NG	94 Emarlos Leroy (Sr., 1); 71 Demetric Evans (So., 0)
DT	<b>96 Paul Snellings (Sr., 3); 97 Marcus Stroud (So., 1)</b>
DE	<b>38 Antonio Cochran (Sr., 1); 33 Rich Robich (Sr., 1)</b>
OLB	50 Dustin Luckie (Jr., 1); 88 Curt McGill (Fr., 0)
MLB	44 Adrian Hollingshed (So., 1); 53 Mike Luckie (Jr., 1)
OLB	<b>58 Orantes Grant (Jr., 2); Will Witherspoon (Fr., 0)</b>
CB	<b>4 Champ Bailey (Jr., 2); 10 Quentin Davis (Jr., 2)</b>
CB	7 Glenn Ford (Sr., 3); 13 Jeff Harris (Jr., 2)
SS	17 Earl Chambers (Jr., 2); 30 Robert Arnaud (Jr., 2)
FS	<b>16 Kirby Smart (Sr., 3); 1 Larry Mann (Jr., 1)</b>
P	8 Jon England (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Jim Donnan

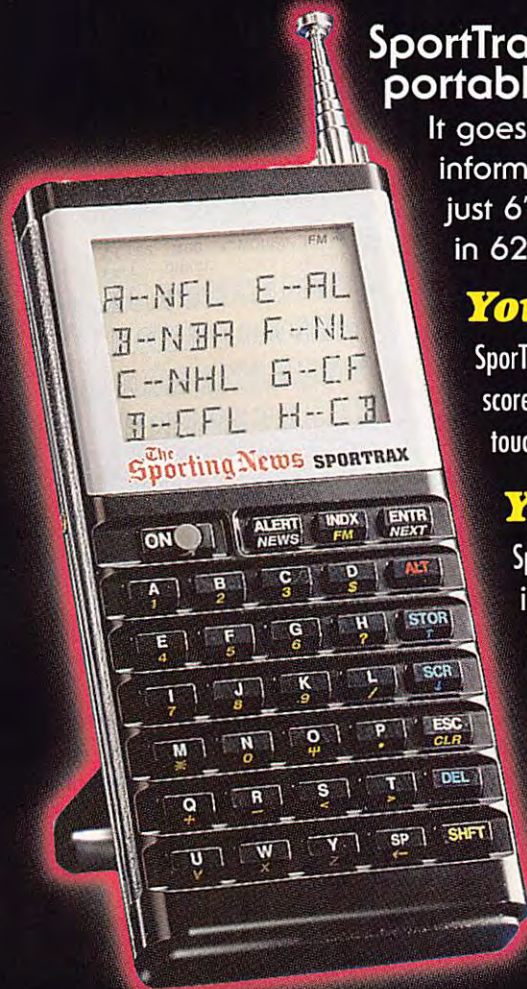
Home Field: Sanford Stadium (86,117)

1997 Record (SEC): 10-2 (6-2)

1998 Prediction: 3rd SEC East



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**H**ubris didn't turn out to be much of a motivator for the 1997 Washington football team. The '98 edition will see if hunger provides a greater incentive. "I think this will be a hungry team," says Brock Huard, the Husky quarterback.

Washington will enter the season as a Pacific-10 Conference title contender, something expected of a perennial bowl team and

A school that has thrived at running back in the 1990s — with Greg Lewis, Napoleon Kaufman, Corey Dillon and Rashaan Shehee — finds itself needing a breakthrough performance by a true freshman in the fall, possibly Willie Hurst of Los Angeles.

Maurice Shaw, Shehee's backup last year, encountered back problems in the spring and readiness by fall camp is questionable.

Moreover, Shaw is a big back without great speed who lacks breakaway capability. Jason Harris, who figured to battle for the job, had quadriceps problems much of the spring, and the load was carried by redshirt freshman Jabari Johnson. But the door is wide open for Hurst or two other freshmen, Jelani Harrison and Matthias Wilson.

The Huskies lost 111 receptions from graduating starters and desperately need a couple of wideouts to emerge, and preferably one of the big-play variety. The leading returning pass-catcher is Harris, who had 15 receptions. Sophomore Ja'Warren Hooker is one who most makes pulses race. He is a national-class sprinter with 10.27 100-meter speed who had three touchdown catches. The loss of Cameron Cleeland opens up a vacancy at tight end. Sophomore John Westra is promising but inexperienced.

The Huskies annually stockpile future linemen, and in Tony Coats, Brad Hutt, Ben Kadletz, Aaron Dalan (all seniors) and sophomore Chad Ward, they have five with extensive starting experience. Senior Dave Dawson looks like the new center. All work on the smash-mouth approach that has opened up lots of daylight for Husky backs.

On the defensive line, 320-pound junior college transfer Toalei Multaauopele, a run-stuffer by reputation, is at nose tackle. His arrival, along with the maturing of juniors Jabari Issa and Mac Tuiaea, should improve the run defense.

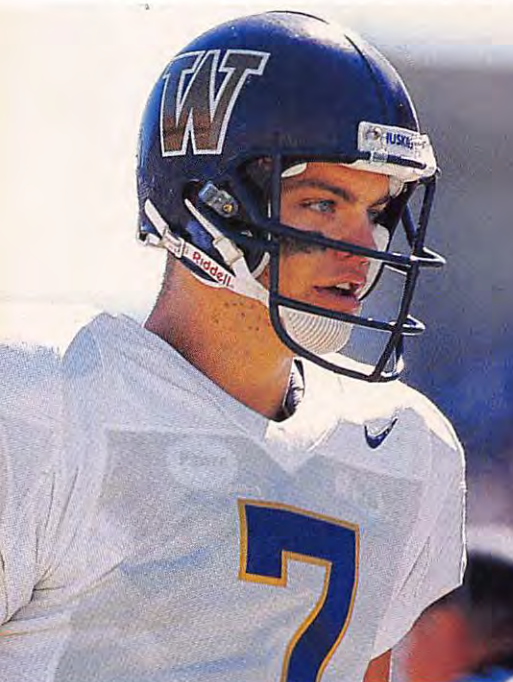
**5** Number of Pac-10 schools that have been to the Rose Bowl more recently than Washington (1993), though the Huskies have by far the best conference record in the '90s: 50-16-1 compared to No. 2 USC's 37-24-2.

Senior Josh Smith figures to start for the first time at one end. The other will likely be Jeremiah Pharms.

Lester Towns, the Huskies' top tackler a year ago with 89 stops, is a premier run-stopper who could show up on All-America teams. His partner at inside linebacker, classmate and close friend Marques Hairston, starts for a second season. Senior Todd Johnson leads at weak-side linebacker.

Junior corners Jermaine Smith and Mel Miller return, joining senior rover Nigel Burton, whose heart is a lot bigger than his body. Miller was sidelined from spring drills for academic reasons, and his return in the fall is pivotal. Senior Brendan Jones leads the race for free safety, but freshman Anthony Vontoure could win it. The secondary must become turnover-minded. There were only three interceptions in '97 among the returning starters.

The kicking game has been a trouble spot through much of the Jim Lambright era. Walk-on sophomore kicker Nick Lentz won the job with 7-of-10 field goals, and senior punter Sean O'Laughlin, though battling inconsistency, averaged 39.2 yards.



Peter Brouillet

## Brock Huard

1991 national co-champion. But it won't have the inflated expectations of 1997, when it was heralded as a potential national champion. The Huskies rose as high as No. 2 in the early season before dropping a Sept. 20 clash to Nebraska. Then, after sailing through October 4-0, they ran afoul of a disastrous, injury-riddled November that was UW's worst closing month since 1973.

A healthy share of talent is still on hand, but the most imposing hurdle ahead of Washington is replacing the seven first-team All-Pac-10 players who were seniors or entered the NFL draft a year early.

The left-handed Huard is a future star who himself took a long look at the NFL before opting to return for what is probably his last college season. Just a junior, he is a terrific deep thrower and accurate overall — he completed 60 percent of his passes (146-of-244, 2,140 yards, 23 TDs, 10 interceptions) last year. A pure drop-back passer with a minimum of mobility, he has been plagued by minor injuries his first two years.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

WR 4 Ja'Warren Hooker (So., 1); 3 Andre DeSaussure (Sr., 1)  
 LT 67 Tony Coats (Sr., 3); 69 Kurth Connell (Jr., 0)  
 LG 51 Brad Hutt (Sr., 1); 70 Ben Kadletz (Sr., 2)  
 C 50 Dave Dawson (Sr., 2); 64 Kyle Benn (Fr., 0)  
 RG 71 Chad Ward (So., 1); 54 Matt Fraize (So., 1)  
 RT 75 Aaron Dalan (Sr., 3); 68 Elliott Silvers (So., 0)  
 TE 98 John Westra (So., 1); 5 Reggie Davis (Sr., 3)  
 QB 7 Brock Huard (Jr., 2); 11 Marques Tuiaasopos (So., 0)  
 FB 47 Pat Conniff (So., 1); 23 Brian Fuller (Jr., 0)  
 TB 32 Maurice Shaw (Jr., 2); 18 Jason Harris (Sr., 2)  
 WR 24 Patrick Reddick (So., 1); 43 Mijo Austin (So., 1)  
 K 19 Nick Lentz (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 99 Josh Smith (Sr., 3); 55 T.J. Jackson (So., 0)  
 NT 93 Toalei Multaauopele (Jr., 0); 70 Larry Tripplett (Fr., 0)  
 DT 78 Mac Tuiaea (Jr., 2); 95 Jabari Issa (Jr., 2)  
 DE 4 Jeremiah Pharms (So., 1); 74 Blake Murphy (Fr., 0)  
 OLB 23 Todd Johnson (Sr., 2); 24 Derrell Daniels (So., 1)  
 ILB 17 Lester Towns (Jr., 2); 42 Jeff Johnson (Jr., 1)  
 ILB 27 Marques Hairston (Jr., 2); 6 Jamaun Willis (Fr., 0)  
 CB 1 Jermaine Smith (Jr., 2); 10 Toure Butler (So., 1)  
 CB 25 Mel Miller (Jr., 2); 12 Omare Lowe (Fr., 0)  
 ROV 8 Nigel Burton (Sr., 2); 28 Hakim Weatherspoon (Sr., 0)  
 FS 13 Brendan Jones (Sr., 2); 26 Anthony Vontoure (Fr., 0)  
 P 15 Sean O'Laughlin (Sr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters BOLD indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Jim Lambright  
 Home Field: Husky Stadium (72,500)

1997 Record: (Pac-10): 8-4 (5-3)  
 1998 Prediction: 4th Pac-10



The eyes of Texas may now be on Mack Brown, but all eyes in the ACC will be on North Carolina and new head coach Carl Torbush, waiting to see if there is any slippage in the football program. The Tar Heels muscled their way into the nation's elite last year. Carolina was 10-1 in the regular season, losing only to Florida State, then the Heels felt snubbed (and

Fullbacks Deon Dyer and Ronnie Robinson are both proven players.

The Heels suffered a damaging blow when junior tight end Alge Crumpler, a potential All-American, tore up a knee in the spring and was lost for the season. Crumpler was a big target with soft hands and had 24 catches last year.

But hold the tears. Senior Na Brown hauled in 55 throws last year to set the school-record, closing fourth in the ACC, while senior L.C. Stevens had 45 grabs for 727 yards and junior Jason Peace another 32 receptions. Some say Brown has the best hands in the ACC.

It doesn't look the same without center Jeff Saturday in the middle, but the Heels aren't lacking talent on the offensive line. Junior guard Joe Ellison started three games in 1997 and Mike Gimbol, another junior, started every game at left guard as the Heels averaged 379 yards in total offense. Tackles John Surigao, James Wagstaff and Kareem Ellis will get looks, and Ryan Carfley and Cam Holland will compete to replace Saturday, an All-ACC pick in '97.

If you wonder how much All-America end Greg Ellis and tackle Vonnie Holliday meant to the Heels on the defensive line, consider that the two went in the first 19 picks of the 1998 NFL Draft. But senior tackle Russell Davis had a career-high 60 tackles last year and senior end Mike Pringley started 10 games. Senior Ebenezer Ekuban may play both defensive end and tight end in double duty. Senior tackle Marcus Dow, out all regular season with a ruptured kidney, is healthy again.

All-America linebackers Brian Simmons and Kivuusama Mays have moved on to the NFL. But senior Keith Newman should be on the list for the Butkus Award as the nation's best linebacker. Junior Brandon Spoon made the Butkus watch as a sophomore, and sophomores Sedrick Hodge and Merceda Perry should also be in the top four. Both played as true freshmen last season.

**50.2** Carolina's defense held opposing teams to no gain or negative yardage on 50.2 percent of its plays last year. Opponents ran 693 plays and failed to make a yard or lost yardage 348 times, including 112 tackles for losses.

The Heels still have Dré Bly roaming around the secondary, intimidating receivers and threatening to pick off any pass in his general vicinity, but the Heels lost safeties Omar Brown and Greg Williams. All-ACC corner Robert Williams gave up his last year of eligibility to enter the pro draft.

Steve Fisher, a former walk-on and special teams standout, should move into Williams' spot at cornerback while senior Jomo Legins and sophomores Antwon Black and Quinton Savage duel for the starting slots at safety.

No replacements are needed among the kickers. Junior Josh McGee converted 12-of-16 field goals while junior Brian Schmitz averaged 40 yards a punt and had 17 touchbacks among his 59 kickoffs.

Schmitz, who has a stronger leg than McGee, also tried a long field goal against N.C. State and promptly booted a 51-yarder.



Mike Moore

## Dré Bly

rightfully so) when the Alliance bowls passed them up. UNC then crushed Virginia Tech 42-3 in the Gator Bowl after Brown left for Texas and Torbush was named his successor. The players were screaming "New Era, New Era" after the game as the Heels finished as high as fourth in the national polls.

It's now Oscar Davenport's turn at quarterback. He shared time with Chris Keldorf the past two years, or as Torbush put it, "the Oscar-Chris thing." But Davenport is the Heels' career leader in pass completion percentage (.637), and the senior was named the team's Offensive MVP despite missing the last two regular-season games and the bowl after a severe ankle injury.

Domonique Williams is the only tailback with any experience, albeit with just 15 carries last year. Redshirt freshman Ravon Anderson could well be the starter come Sept. 5 in the opener, but Williams and redshirt freshman Rufus Brown and sophomore Tyrell Godwin could make a push in preseason.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

WR **18 Na Brown (Sr., 2)**; 1 Chuckie Parquet (Sr., 3)  
 LT 77 John Surigao (Sr., 2); 75 Robert Nixon (Jr., 0)  
 LG **76 Mike Gimbol (Jr., 1)**; 66 Cam Holland (So., 1)  
 C 57 Ryan Carfley (Jr., 1); 66 Cam Holland (So., 1)  
 RG 56 Joe Ellison (Jr., 2); 67 Jon Hall (Jr., 1)  
 RT 73 James Wagstaff (So., 0); 65 Kareem Ellis (Jr., 0)  
 TE 85 Allen Mogridge (Jr., 2); 86 Ebenezer Ekuban (Sr., 3)  
 QB **10 Oscar Davenport (Sr., 2)**; 8 Kevin Carty (So., 0)  
 FB **38 Deon Dyer (Jr., 2)**; 32 Ronnie Robinson (So., 1)  
 TB 2 Domonique Williams (So., 1); 4 Ravon Anderson (Fr., 0)  
 WR **5 L.C. Stevens (Sr., 3)**; 19 Jason Peace (Jr., 2)  
 K **37 Josh McGee (Jr., 2)**; 23 Brian Schmitz (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (4)

DE **91 Mike Pringley (Sr., 3)**; 98 Teto Simpson (Jr., 0)  
 DT **96 Russell Davis (Sr., 3)**; 55 Bryan Jones (Jr., 1)  
 DE 78 Marcus Dow (Sr., 2); 94 Varian Ballard (So., 0)  
 DT 86 Ebenezer Ekuban (Sr., 3); 93 Stephon McQueen (So., 1)  
 LB **9 Keith Newman (Sr., 3)**; 36 Tim Burgess (So., 0)  
 LB 44 Brandon Spoon (Jr., 2); 48 Shawn Woodard (Jr., 0)  
 LB 52 Sedrick Hodge (So., 1); 54 Merceda Perry (So., 1)  
 CB **31 Dré Bly (Jr., 2)**; 11 Anthony Anderson (Fr., 0)  
 CB 34 Steve Fisher (Sr., 2); 29 Errol Hood (Fr., 0)  
 SS 21 Jomo Legins (Sr., 3); 26 Quinton Savage (So., 1)  
 FS 14 Antwon Black (So., 1); 42 David Bomar (Jr., 1)  
 P **23 Brian Schmitz (Jr., 2)**; 33 Derrick DePriest (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Carl Torbush  
 Home Field: Kenan Stadium (60,000)

1997 Record (ACC): 11-1 (7-1)  
 1998 Prediction: 3rd ACC



**F**ollowing his final game at Michigan State, All-Big Ten linebacker Ike Reese issued a challenge to the returning players.

"This program is ready to explode," Reese told the Spartans. "It's right around the corner. But you have to kick it into that final gear at the end of games and at the end of the season."



**Sedrick Irvin**

Despite winning their first five and being ranked as high as No. 11, the Spartans couldn't finish the job in Reese's final season and had to settle for a 7-5 record.

The Spartans, entering coach Nick Saban's fourth season, must rely on a relatively inexperienced quarterback. That could lead to an 0-3 start considering their schedule — Game 1 at Oregon, then home against Notre Dame, then the in-state clash against Michigan at Ann Arbor.

Junior Bill Burke, a left-hander, started only two games in 1996 and a chronic back injury has kept him from making progress since then. When he's healthy, Burke has more mobility than the departed Todd Schultz had. If his back doesn't hold up, highly-rated freshman Ryan VanDyke could get an early call.

The Spartans will let junior tailback Sedrick Irvin, a potential Heisman Trophy candidate, carry them as far as he can. He has tremendous vision and cutting ability. Irvin also is a talented receiver (at times he lines up as a wideout) and can even throw

the ball effectively. Offensive coordinator Gary Tranquill will get the ball in Irvin's hands in as often as possible. Look for junior Leroy McFadden to play fullback. He has more size and speed than Irvin and gives the backfield an extra weapon.

The Spartans have lacked the big-play wide receivers of late, but that could change with the addition of sophomore split end Plaxico Burress. A highly-rated high school player out of Virginia two years ago, Burress spent a year at a prep school and another year at Michigan State to become academically eligible. Junior wideout Gari Scott knows how to get open.

Juniors Kyle Rance and Brad Rainko are the top returning tight ends, but the offense could add a new dimension with redshirt freshman Chris Baker or sophomore Ivory McCoy at the position.

Of the Spartan's top 12 offensive linemen, only one, center Jason Strayhorn, is a senior. The Spartans must replace three starters, including Flozell Adams, one of the nation's top tackles. Strayhorn and right guard Shaun Mason, a sophomore, are the only returning starters. Keep an eye on junior college transfer Greg Robinson-Randall, who slimmed down from nearly 370 pounds to less than 330 during his first three months at Michigan State. Redshirt freshman Shawn Murphy is considered the team's best young prospect on the line.

There is more quality depth on the defensive line than any other position. Both ends, Robaire Smith and Dimitrius Underwood, have the speed to beat their blockers to the outside. Both are All-Big Ten candi-

dates. Tackles Robert Newkirk and Desmond Thomas are solid against the run and can apply enough pressure up the middle to frustrate quarterbacks. Reserve tackle Pete Govens returns from a knee injury, and end Julian Peterson, a junior-college transfer, should contribute immediately.

Junior Mike Austin moves from middle linebacker to Reese's spot on the weak side, with sophomore T.J. Turner taking over in the middle. Courtney Ledyard, who plays the strong side, is a quick pass rusher and also has been used at defensive end.

**11** In the Spartans' seven wins, Michigan State's turnover margin was plus-11. It was minus-11 in the five losses.

The Spartans could start three seniors in the secondary, cornerback Amp Campbell, strong safety Lemar Marshall and free safety Sorie Kanu. Campbell is solid in man-to-man coverage. Marshall, who is the team's most versatile defensive back, could move around and be used as the nickel back if junior Aric Morris earns the strong safety position ahead of him. Kanu is a quiet but solid center fielder who will not make critical mistakes. Leading candidates in the vacated corner include sophomores Richard Newsome and Renaldo Hill and junior Donvetis Franklin.

Junior Paul Edinger was recruited as a placekicker but did the punting his first two years.

He has been inconsistent as a punter, and the Spartans would like to see freshman Craig Jarrett fill that role and allow Edinger to concentrate exclusively on placekicking. If Jarrett isn't ready, Edinger will handle both.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

SE	4 Plaxico Burress (So., 0); 7 Lavalie Richardson (So., 1)
LT	74 Shawn Murphy (Fr., 0); 72 Matt Bonito (So., 0)
LG	60 Mike Schutz (So., 1); 70 Dave Sucura (So., 1)
C	79 Jason Strayhorn (Sr., 2); 63 Marty Wensel (Fr., 0)
RG	71 Shaun Mason (So., 1); 68 Willie Comerford (So., 1)
TE	64 Casey Jensen (Jr., 2); 77 Josh Smith (Fr., 0)
RT	88 Kyle Rance (Jr., 2); 84 Brad Rainko (Jr., 1)
FL	86 Gari Scott (Jr., 2); 2 Herb Haygood (Fr., 0)
QB	16 Bill Burke (Jr., 2); 5 Lorenzo Guess (Fr., 0)
FB	45 Garrett Gould (Sr., 3); 28 Leroy McFadden (Jr., 1)
RB	33 Sedrick Irvin (Jr., 2); 34 Billy Greene (Jr., 2)
K	1 Paul Edinger (Jr., 2); 2 David Schaefer (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (9)

DE	99 Dimitrius Underwood (Sr., 3); 80 Jace Saylor (So., 1)
DT	62 Robert Newkirk (Jr., 2); 94 Artie Steinmetz (So., 1)
DT	66 Desmond Thomas (Sr., 2); 92 Pete Govens (So., 1)
DE	91 Robaire Smith (Jr., 1); 97 Nick Myers (Fr., 0)
LB	53 Courtney Ledyard (Sr., 3); 38 Sean Banks (Jr., 1)
LB	35 T.J. Turner (So., 1); 56 Dwayne Hawkins (Jr., 2)
LB	25 Mike Austin (Jr., 2); 31 Shawn Wright (Jr., 2)
CB	3 Amp Campbell (Sr., 2); 24 Richard Brown (So., 1)
CB	32 Richard Newsome (So., 1); 15 Renaldo Hill (So., 0)
SS	9 Aric Morris (Jr., 2); 29 Lemar Marshall (Sr., 3)
FS	6 Sorie Kanu (Sr., 3); 41 John Marynowski (So., 0)
P	Craig Jarrett (Fr., 0); 1 Paul Edinger (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Nick Saban  
Home Field: Spartan Stadium (72,027)

1997 Record (Big 10): 7-5 (4-4)  
1998 Prediction: 4th Big 10



**C**an Notre Dame return to the elite? "Nobody likes to be 7-6," says coach Bob Davie of his inaugural season, the worst for the Fighting Irish in more than a decade. "There are a lot of people who live and die Notre Dame football, but to us it's personal."

The Irish need to toughen up on both sides of the ball — they averaged only 23

stymies defenders. He is a threat catching passes out of the backfield too. His 30 receptions last season were the most by an Irish running back since 1968. Senior Jamie Spencer and junior Joey Goodspeed need to improve their blocking at fullback to trigger the option as well as restore Notre Dame's once-vaunted power running game. Freshman Mike McNair, a California import with power, balance and speed could be a factor.

Irish wide receivers are getting better. Seniors Malcolm Johnson (42 catches for 596 yards) and Bobby Brown (45 for 543) were the first Irish wide receiving duo in history to each surpass 40 receptions in a season. Junior Raki Nelson (23 catches for 341 yards) has become an accomplished possession receiver, and sophomore Jabari Holloway could become a star at tight end.

Experienced, big and strong, the Irish are counting on the offensive line to return the team to rushing supremacy. Junior center John Merandi is the only lineman without starting experience. He's also the smallest at 6-3, 290. Senior tackle Mike Rosenthal and guards Tim Ridder and Jerry Wisne are 6-7 across the front, and senior tackle Luke Pettigout, who graded out the best during last season, is 6-6. The line averages 301 pounds and the guards are mobile enough to give Denson and Jackson a formidable escort on sweeps and sprint-outs.

The defensive line is Davie's biggest concern. An aggressive off-season conditioning program has added heft but that might not be enough. Junior tackle Brad Williams and nose guard Lance Legree put in more than

300 minutes last year but combined for only 28 tackles. Senior Antwon Jones will push Legree, but neither has dominated. Senior Lamont Bryant moves from outside linebacker to defensive end in hopes of creating a stronger pass rush.

Senior Bobbie Howard puts his quickness and instincts to good use at weak-side linebacker. Senior Jimmy Friday led the Irish in tackles a year ago at the other inside position, where junior Ronnie Nicks could have an impact if he can stay healthy.

On the outside, senior Kory Minor has the explosiveness and savvy to deliver big hits and could earn All-America honors. Sophomore Grant Irons backed up Friday last year but now, at 6-5, 247, will take aim at quarterbacks from the outside.

**34** The Irish are expected to sell out Notre Dame Stadium for the 34th season in a row. When Notre Dame opens against Michigan on Sept. 5, it will be the 138th consecutive sellout of a home game.

The secondary is reconstituted with strong safety Benny Guilbeaux the only returning starter at the same position as last year. Junior Deveron Harper moves from free safety to one cornerback slot. Sophomore Brock Williams could beat out fifth-year player Ty Goode at the other corner. Davie switched sophomore Tony Driver from running back to free safety, and Driver may be the hardest hitter on the team.

Jim Sanson has a strong leg but is only 11-of-19 in field goal attempts for his career. Hunter Smith holds down the punting chores. In the return game, Denson, Driver and speedsters Darcy Levy and Joey Getherall will all get their chances.



Peter Brouillet

## Kory Minor

points a game last year and yielded more yards on the ground than they gained. The offensive line has to return to its smash-mouth glory, the signature of Notre Dame football. And they could also use some mayhem-makers on defense.

The answers will come early. The Irish start against four teams that beat them last year, including defending national co-champion Michigan in the opener.

Davie will use a more option-oriented offense with Jarious Jackson, an elusive runner who replaces Ron Powlus at quarterback. With his instinctive ability to run the option and throw on the sprint-out, Jackson brings an entirely different dimension to the offense than the drop-back, lumbering style Powlus offered.

Senior tailback Autry Denson will lead the ground game, needing 999 more yards to break Allen Pinkett's school career rushing mark of 4,131. Denson brings reliability and productivity, if not flash, to the running game. He lacks breakaway speed but has a shifty yet tough running style that

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

SE **6** Malcolm Johnson (Sr., 3); 18 Joey Getherall (So., 1)  
ST **70** Mike Rosenthal (Sr., 3); 67 John Wagner (Sr., 0)  
SG **79** Tim Ridder (Sr., 2); 28 Mike Grady (Sr., 1)  
C **64** John Merandi (Sr., 1); 74 Rob Mowl (Sr., 0)  
QG **71** Jerry Wisne (Sr., 2); 55 Jim Jones (Sr., 0)  
QT **54** Luke Pettigout (Sr., 2); 68 Matt Brennan (Sr., 0)  
TE **87** Jabari Holloway (So., 1); 86 Dan O'Leary (Sr., 1)  
QB **7** Jarious Jackson (Sr., 2); 16 Zak Kustok (So., 0)  
FB **45** Joey Goodspeed (Sr., 2); 33 Jamie Spencer (Sr., 2)  
RB **23** Autry Denson (Sr., 3); 32 Clement Stokes (Sr., 2)  
FL **88** Bobby Brown (Sr., 2); 9 Raki Nelson (Sr., 2)  
K **19** Jim Sanson (Sr., 2)

### DEFENSE (7)

DE **77** Brad Williams (Sr., 2); 93 B.J. Scott (Sr., 0)  
NG **90** Lance Legree (Sr., 1); 85 Antwon Jones (Sr., 2)  
DE **53** Lamont Bryant (Sr., 2); 99 Jason Ching (Sr., 0)  
OLB **44** Grant Irons (So., 1); 41 Joe Ferrer (Sr., 1)  
ILB **13** Jimmy Friday (Sr., 2); 34 Ronnie Nicks (Sr., 1)  
ILB **27** Bobbie Howard (Sr., 3); 49 Joe Thomas (Sr., 1)  
OLB **4** Kory Minor (Sr., 3); 39 Anthony Denman (So., 1)  
CB **24** Ty Goode (Sr., 2); 38 Brock Williams (So., 1)  
CB **10** Deveron Harper (Sr., 2); 37 Ron Israel (So., 0)  
SS **2** Benny Guilbeaux (Sr., 2); 26 Lee Lafayette (Sr., 1)  
FS **25** Tony Driver (So., 1); 5 A'Jani Sanders (Sr., 2)  
P **17** Hunter Smith (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bob Davie

Home Field: Notre Dame Stadium (80,000)

1997 Record (Independent): 7-6



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**T**he final season of the Donovan McNabb era begins with Syracuse among the front-runners for another Big East title and a spot in the Bowl Alliance. McNabb might even vault into the Heisman race if he sparkles in Syracuse's killer double-header against Tennessee and Michigan to kick off the season.

Offensively, the pieces are in place for

healthy, there are few athletes anywhere who combine his power, speed and grace. He'll be the focus of the running game.

Kyle McIntosh and Dee Brown are an underrated tailback tandem. They combined to rush for 1,453 yards in 1997. Nick Sudano is a punishing lead blocker.

Spotwood and Johnson form one of the most impressive pass-catching combos in the country. They average 200 yards in receptions a game and more than 19 yards a catch. The two excel on special teams, too. Spotwood was the Big East Special Teams Player of the Year after returning four punts for touchdowns, tying an NCAA record. Johnson returned two kick-offs for touchdowns and averaged 36.7 yards per return.

Coaches seem pleased with the ability and performance of Steve Brominski, Mike Bennett and Darryl Stroope at tight end.

Senior guard Scott Kiernan is one of the Big East's best offensive linemen. He's a dominating, ornery competitor and the leader of the Orangemen up front. Junior center Cory Bowen comes off winter knee surgery but is a two-year starter. Junior Mark Baniewicz returns at tackle and will be joined on the other side by junior Jeff Pilon, a tall, aggressive lineman who should give the Orangemen more speed and strength at the corner. The big hole is at right guard. Sophomore Bill O'Donnell was a slight front-runner in the spring.

Syracuse must replace three of four starters on the defensive line while juicing up one of the league's worst pass rushes, though it seems to be solid in the middle.

Senior Brian Coleman, junior Derrick Corley, junior Donald Dinkins and sophomore Rick Simpkins all have played. Sophomore Cliff Snell, a linebacker last year, is the group's fastest player. He along with Sheldon King will shore up the ends.

The linebacker corps is the only area on defense with any appreciable experience. Morlon Greenwood, Stan Gibbs and Keith Bulluck shared time at the two outside linebacker spots. Bulluck is the returning leader in tackles, with 90, and sacks, with five.

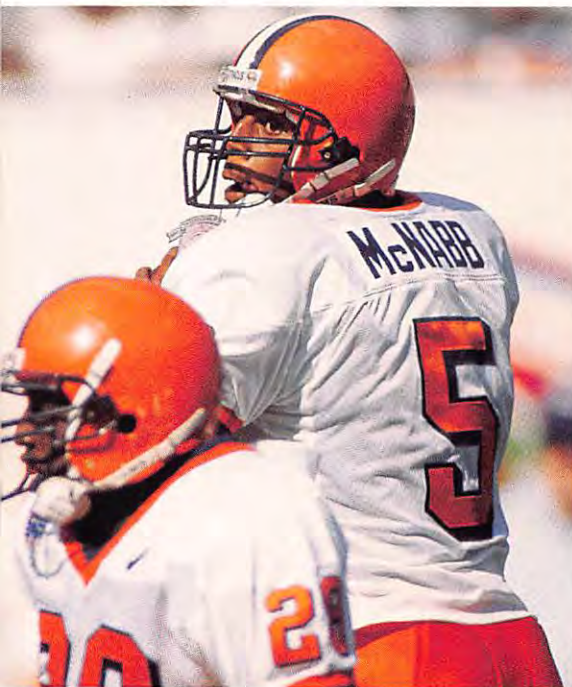
**423**

The number of points Syracuse scored last season, a new school record.

Gone are three starters from the secondary, each one of whom played major roles. Having to replace two NFL-bound safeties and the team's best cover corner is a considerable obstacle. Senior Phil Nash may move from cornerback to safety in order to run the secondary. Senior Jason Poles emerged as the team's fifth defensive back last season and is a big, athletic presence.

The cornerbacks are converted receiver Ian McIntosh and sophomore Will Allen. Both have the speed to play corner but must improve their cover skills.

Though he outplayed Kansas State All-American Martin Gramatica in the Fiesta Bowl, kicker Nathan Trout is 22-of-30 (73 percent) in career field goals. That number should be higher in the climate-controlled environment of the Carrier Dome. Punter Doug Dunkin has a big-time leg but must get off to a better start than he did a year ago. If anybody has two better returners in the country than Spotwood and Johnson, let them step forward.



Ali Jorge

## Donovan McNabb

the Orangemen to be spectacular. The receiving corps, led by Quinton Spotwood and Kevin Johnson, is exceptional. The line is athletic, and if running back Rob Konrad can stay healthy, this unit can be dominant.

The defense, however, is pea-soup green and will likely keep Syracuse from being a national player. No way this team replaces safeties Donovan Darius and Tebucky Jones and expects to improve.

Syracuse has won nine games in each of McNabb's three seasons but has infuriated its fans by failing to raise the bar. McNabb says he takes the shortcomings personally. "I put a quote out for myself: 'If you want it, go get it,'" he says.

McNabb, a three-time All-Big East quarterback, seriously considered entering the National Football League draft as a junior. He didn't come back just to hang out. McNabb is a ferocious competitor and a special quarterback.

The reigning No. 44, fullback Rob Konrad, missed eight starts, including the Fiesta Bowl, because of injuries. When Konrad is

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

**WR** 8 Quinton Spotwood (Jr., 2); 19 Jeff Lowe (Sr., 1)  
**LT** 59 Mark Baniewicz (Jr., 1); 75 Mathieu Beaudoin (Jr., 0)  
**LG** 61 Scott Kiernan (Sr., 3); 58 Frank Giufre (Jr., 0)  
**C** 55 Cory Bowen (Jr., 2); 76 Sean O'Connor (Fr., 0)  
**RG** 67 Bill O'Donnell (Jr., 0); 65 Joe Burton (Fr., 0)  
**RT** 64 Jeff Pilon (Jr., 1); 74 John Wellington (Jr., 0)  
**TE** 87 Stephen Brominski (Jr., 2); 88 Mike Bennett (Jr., 0)  
**QB** 5 Donovan McNabb (Sr., 3); 17 Madei Williams (Fr., 0)  
**FB** 44 Rob Konrad (Sr., 3); 35 Nick Sudano (Jr., 1)  
**TB** 28 Kyle McIntosh (Sr., 3); 6 Dee Brown (So., 1)  
**WR** 12 Kevin Johnson (Sr., 2); 18 Darryl Daniel (Sr., 2)  
**K** 36 Nate Trout (Jr., 2); 24 Peter Ferris (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (4)

**DE** 48 Sheldon King (Fr., 0); 95 Marc Pilon (Sr., 0)  
**DT** 98 Rickie Simpkins (So., 0); 70 Donald Dinkins (Jr., 1)  
**DT** 78 Brian Coleman (Sr., 2); 93 Ahmad McDonald (So., 0)  
**DE** 56 Cliff Snell (So., 1); 97 Giovanni DeLoatch (Fr., 0)  
**LB** 33 Keith Bulluck (Jr., 2); 27 Kevin O'Neil (Jr., 1)  
**LB** 52 Morlon Greenwood (So., 1); 51 Matt Klaus (Jr., 1)  
**LB** 31 Stan Gibbs (Sr., 3); 42 Rodney Wells (Fr., 0)  
**CB** 25 Will Allen (So., 1); 29 Quentin Harris (Fr., 0)  
**CB** 2 Ian McIntosh (Jr., 2); 37 Charles Burton (Fr., 0)  
**SS** 7 Jason Poles (Sr., 1); 45 J.R. Johnson (Fr., 0)  
**FS** 10 Phil Nash (Sr., 3); 21 Jamont Kinds (So., 1)  
**P** 13 Doug Dunkin (Sr., 1); 24 Peter Ferris (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach:** Paul Pasqualoni  
**Home Field:** Carrier Dome (50,000)

**1997 Record (Big East):** 9-4 (6-1)  
**1998 Prediction:** 2nd Big East



In his first three years on the job, coach Tommy Tuberville has directed Ole Miss from the ashes of NCAA probation to an 8-4 season, a victory over Marshall in the Motor City Bowl and a No. 22 national ranking. Now, the question is whether the Rebels can keep the program on the upswing by competing for an SEC Western Division title.

and the quick feet to turn a bad play into a good play. But Ole Miss relies on its quarterbacks to check off to the right play, and only repetitions in game situations will make Miller proficient in that crucial area.

The torch was passed in the Motor City Bowl when John Avery gave way to power back Deuce McAllister on the game-winning touchdown drive. Incoming freshman Charles Stackhouse is 6-3, 205 pounds and reminds Rebels fans of McAllister. Alishma Alexander will be a blocking back when Ole Miss goes to the two-back set.

Wide receiver may be the team's greatest strength. The Rebels return split end Grant Heard, tight end Rufus French, flanker Cory Peterson and slotback Robert Reed. French is considered a sure All-America candidate heading into his junior year.

In hopes of stretching the field with the vertical passing game, the Rebels recruited a couple of burners from Florida — Rashod Moulton and Mike Salters.

The offensive line was the most improved part of the Ole Miss team last year. Heady senior Matt Luke, who makes the calls and helps those around him handle stunts and twists, returns at center. Terrence Metcalf and Keydrick Vincent, a couple of 300-pounders, were huge contributors as freshmen and figure to start at the guard spots. Todd Wade returns at right tackle. But the Rebels will have to hope letterman Tutan Reyes can move up to a starting position and flourish at left tackle.

Defensive line is an area where the Rebels have to improve if they hope to compete for a division title. Players such as Derrick

Burgess, Mitch Baker, Morris Scott, Comone Fisher and Michael Boone had their moments last year. But the Rebels need to make more stops at the line of scrimmage. Look for incoming freshmen Justin Blake and Kahlil Nash and junior college transfers Kendrick Clancy and Tyler Williams to give Ole Miss a much stronger inside presence.

# 17

The Rebels are 17-0 at home in night games since lights were installed at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium in 1990. Central Florida, SMU, Vanderbilt and Arkansas fell in Oxford under the lights last year.

Graduation wiped the slate clean at linebacker. Armegis Spearman takes over in the middle and Al Rice should fill one of the outside spots. Junior Walt Hill has some experience as well. Tuberville, has a prize recruit in *Parade* All-America linebacker Eddie Strong. He may step in and play right away.

Free safety Tim Strickland and cornerback Gary Thigpen are back in the secondary, but strong safeties Ronnie Heard and Jason Clinigan have been reassigned to other positions. Sophomore Anthony Magee and is set to take over the spot. To add depth at cornerback, Ole Miss recruited Arthur Spear from Killeen, Texas, and the athletic Syniker Taylor of Gulfport, Miss. Kenneth Woods is a junior college transfer who should contribute at the safety positions.

Steve Lindsey was only 9-of-18 on field goals and missed four extra point attempts. Ole Miss will try to help the kicking situation with Converse Chellis and Donald Juneau. Reagan King has a strong punting leg. Ken Lucas is the kickoff returner.



Courtland Richards

## Gary Thigpen

"We may not be as good early because we're breaking in a new quarterback," Tuberville says. "We have to give Romaro Miller time to grow, just as we did with Stewart Patridge."

With Patridge blooming into one of the more proficient quarterbacks in the Southeastern Conference and setting several school passing records, the Rebels won four of their last five games in 1997. They no longer think of themselves as second-class citizens in the SEC West. If the strong-armed Miller lives up to expectations and the defense can reload at linebacker, where three starters were lost, the Rebels believe they can be contenders in the division.

Miller, a sophomore, was strictly a baseball cap and clipboard quarterback in 1997. With Patridge playing well and Ole Miss involved in several close games, the Rebels' coaching staff wasn't able to get Miller onto the field as often as it wanted. Now, it's Miller time and Ole Miss will go as far as the former *Parade* All-American takes them.

Miller has a stronger arm than Patridge

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

SE 88 Grant Heard (Jr., 2); 23 Jason Clinigan (Jr., 2)  
LT 76 Tutan Reyes (Jr., 2); 75 Andy Horton (So., 0)  
LG 79 Terrence Metcalf (So., 1); 65 John Keith (Fr., 0)  
C 50 Matt Luke (Sr., 3); 67 Charlie Perkins (So., 1)  
RG 73 Keydrick Vincent (So., 1); 72 John McGarvey (Fr., 0)  
RT 71 Todd Wade (Jr., 2); 70 Joey Embry (Jr., 1)  
TE 9 Rufus French (Jr., 2); 82 Matt Koon (Fr., 0)  
FL 85 Cory Peterson (Jr., 2); 24 Ken Lucas (So., 1)  
QB 11 Romaro Miller (So., 1); 13 Jake Hill (Fr., 0)  
FB 17 Alishma Alexander (Sr., 1); 33 Tony Cannon (Sr., 2)  
TB 22 Deuce McAllister (So., 1); 28 Joe Gunn (Fr., 0)  
K 15 Converse Chellis (Fr., 0); 13 Donald Juneau (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (4)

DE 56 Derrick Burgess (So., 1); 95 Morris Scott (Sr., 3)  
DT 90 Mitch Baker (Jr., 1); 84 Comone Fisher (Jr., 2)  
DE 62 Michael Boone (Jr., 2); 96 Kendrick Clancy (Jr., 0)  
DE 99 Robert Gates (Sr., 1); 32 Anthony Sims (Fr., 0)  
LB 10 Walt Hill (Jr., 2); 2 Ronnie Heard (Jr., 2)  
LB 4 Armegis Spearman (Jr., 2); 44 Chad Cook (So., 1)  
LB 80 Al Rice (Jr., 2); 59 Shane Elam (So., 0)  
CB 38 Gary Thigpen (Sr., 3); 58 Brent McDowell (Sr., 0)  
CB 35 Korey Graham (So., 1); 12 Justin Coleman (Fr., 0)  
SS 27 Anthony Magee (So., 1); 6 Bradley Robinson (So., 1)  
FS 3 Timothy Strickland (Jr., 2); 12 Kenneth Woods (Jr., 0)  
P 16 Reagan King (So., 1); 48 Ben Craddock (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters BOLD indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Tommy Tuberville

Home Field: Vaught-Hemingway Stadium (42,577)

1997 Record (SEC): 8-4 (4-4)

1998 Prediction: 2nd SEC West



**Q**uickly. What was the most unique characteristic of any of last season's Top 25 college football teams?

If you guessed that Southern Mississippi was the only one to play fewer than six home games, then, as Ed McMahon would say to Johnny Carson, "Yes. You are correct."

In fact, Southern Miss played only four

has the full confidence of his teammates. He has led the team's offense the past two seasons and is anxious to move the Eagles into the Top 10.

USM's backfield losses (Eric Booth and Harold Shaw) were significant. Junior Brandon Francis and sophomores Kelby Nance and Dawayne Woods are back, of whom only Nance had any carries last fall. Those close to the program feel Nance could start the season as the main ball carrier.

As a sophomore, Sherrod Gideon improved with each game, earning first-team all-conference honors. Now the wide receiver is ready for some national recognition. If the speedy Gideon increases his 1997 numbers by 10 percent, he will finish the '98 campaign with roughly 59 catches (with a yards-per-catch average of 20.5), 1,100 yards and 10 touchdowns. Those are All-America stats.

The flankers are senior Eddie Shaw and junior Todd Pinkston, who combined for 662 receiving yards last year. In addition, senior Kevin Heard has game-breaking speed. A newcomer, probably sophomore Timirra Nolan or redshirt freshman Orlando Dantzler, will be counted on at tight end.

Some top-quality players, all returning starters, bolster the Southern Miss offensive front. Seniors Frank Firestone at center, Henry McLendon at left tackle and O'Lester Pope at right tackle are pile-driving run blockers. Junior left guard Shederick Blackmon is underrated. The right guard will be senior Richie Davidson.

Junior end Adalius Thomas anchors what

should be another strong Golden Eagle defensive line. At tackles are John Nix and DeQuincy Scott. The other end will be sophomore Cedric Scott. Three more sophomores, Gerald Mumford, Deric Scott and Daleroy Stewart, will receive quality minutes. Together they comprise one of the best collections of young defensive linemen in the country.

**9** The number of USM sophomore defenders expected to see playing time.

With Marchant Kenney gone, junior Ty Trahan is now ready to assume leadership of the USM linebacking corps.

He will be joined by senior Brian A. Bell, who replaced T.J. Slaughter after the latter missed most of last year with ankle sprains. Slaughter is back and should regain his starting job.

The secondary unit's best player, senior strong safety Larry Watts, missed spring work to concentrate on academics, as did sophomore free safety Leo Barnes. Their expected return in the fall is critical.

Very little difference separates senior cornerbacks Jose Gonzalez and Deshone Mallard, junior Terrance Parrish and redshirt freshman Dayron Brutley. Mallard should start again this season.

Southern Mississippi kicker Tim Hardaway will look to break the USM single-season field-goal percentage record of 82.4 held by Chris Pierce.

Junior Jamie Purser, who enjoyed a fine spring, will be the punter. Gideon is an excellent punt returner. Running backs Francis and Woods will get the opportunities for that duty.



**T.J. Slaughter**

home games, gave Florida as competitive a contest in Gainesville as anyone and battled under the pall of the tragic, early September auto-accident death of coach Jeff Bower's daughter Kristen.

But this is standard for Southern Miss, which does more with less than any team in America. The Golden Eagles win without having eye-popping facilities. They win despite the fact that Ole Miss and Mississippi State have refused to play them in recent years. And they win despite having to play ridiculous road schedules to generate revenue for the school's other athletic programs. In typically-modest fashion, Bower downplays his program's success. However, with a record of 29-16 over the past four seasons, the coach is hoping for continued productivity.

It may start with his quarterback. Lee Roberts may not look like a big-time college football signal caller, and his stats (though above-average) won't raise eyebrows, but the kid knows how to win. Intelligent and poised, Roberts rarely makes mistakes and

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

**WR** 11 Sherrod Gideon (Jr., 2); 19 Raymond Walls (So., 1)  
**LT** 72 Henry McClendon (Sr., 1); 59 Antonio Franklin (So., 0)  
**LG** 70 Shederick Blackmon (Jr., 2); 66 Tre Chambers (Fr., 0)  
**C** 54 Frank Firestone (Sr., 1); 64 Maxie Vige (Sr., 0)  
**RG** 74 Richie Davidson (Sr., 1); 60 Jeff Hopgood (Sr., 2)  
**TE** 65 O'Lester Pope (Sr., 3); 79 Brian F. Bell (Jr., 0)  
**RT** 85 Timirra Nolan (So., 1); 84 Orlando Dantzler (Fr., 0)  
**FL** 25 Eddie Shaw (Sr., 3); 89 Kevin Heard (Sr., 1)  
**WR** 80 Todd Pinkston (Jr., 2); 81 Danny Fowler (Fr., 0)  
**QB** 5 Lee Roberts (Sr., 3); 8 Brian Balazik (So., 0)  
**RB** 32 Kelby Nance (So., 1); 35 Brandon Francis (Jr., 2)  
**K** 9 Tim Hardaway (Sr., 1); 30 Mike Mitchell (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (8)

**DE** 96 Cedric Scott (So., 1); 41 Deric Scott (So., 1)  
**NT** 78 DeQuincy Scott (So., 1); 93 Gerald Mumford (So., 1)  
**DT** 98 John Nix (So., 1); 90 Daleroy Stewart (So., 1)  
**DE** 97 Adalius Thomas (Jr., 2); 47 Marvin Brown (Jr., 2)  
**LB** 16 Ty Trahan (Jr., 2); 47 Marvin Brown (Jr., 2)  
**LB** 34 T.J. Slaughter (Jr., 2); 46 Royal Bell (Jr., 2)  
**LB** 45 Brian A. Bell (Sr., 1); 31 David Verdell (So., 1)  
**CB** 3 Deshone Mallard (Sr., 1); 2 Jose Gonzalez (Sr., 1)  
**CB** 12 Dayron Brutley (Fr., 0); 24 Terrance Parrish (Jr., 2)  
**SS** 13 Larry Watts (Sr., 2); 38 Zaid Houston (So., 1)  
**FS** 20 Leo Barnes (So., 1); 29 Chandler Smith (Sr., 2)  
**P** 18 Jamie Purser (Jr., 2); 7 Jack Gabriel (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Jeff Bower

Home Field: Roberts Stadium (33,000)

1997 Record (C-USA): 9-3 (6-0)

1998 Prediction: 1st C-USA



**V**ersatile cornerback R.W. McQuarters, who did a little of everything for the Oklahoma State Cowboys, is headed for the NFL early.

Such a critical loss, combined with the natural attrition of players completing their eligibility, would be foreboding under ordinary circumstances. But what Bob Simmons accomplished in his third season as

rushing yardage was an Oklahoma State freshman record.

Simmons, who is a little bigger and stronger, rushed for 711 yards and five touchdowns, caught 11 passes for 56 yards. Senior Brian Aikins and junior Kevin Brown provide punch at fullback when it's required.

Senior Terrance Richardson, a two-year starter, returns from a disciplinary suspension, joining seniors Sean Love and Willie Grissom to give the Cowboys experience and depth at wideout. Grissom caught 14 passes for 166 yards last season, though he has yet to catch a touchdown pass. Love caught 12 passes for 231 yards and two touchdowns. Junior Garrett Steggs will take over tight end duties.

The Cowboys ranked third in the Big 12 and 10th in the nation in rushing offense last season, averaging 226 yards per game. If they are to approach that number this year, they'll have to rebuild the offensive line around senior Jeremy Offutt and juniors Adam Davis and Reynell Lavigne. Offutt, whose consistency has earned him 19 consecutive starts, has played some tackle and started at center in all but one game last season. Davis started his college career as a tight end. He and Offutt both earned all-conference honorable mention. Junior Andrew Golembiewski and senior Chris Lewis are among those who must step up into starting roles.

The Cowboys improved defensively after dumping a read-and-react philosophy in favor of an attacking 46 set late in the 1996 season. The line took a severe hit when All-Big 12 tackle Jamal Williams came up short

academically, but the rest of the front four returns intact. Seniors Andrel Waddle, Alton Weaver and Taber LaBlanc alternated at the ends. Junior tackle Cortney Mallory was third on the team in tackles for loss with eight for 16 yards. Sophomore Zac Akin, Williams' backup, is undersized at 225 pounds.

Linebacking is a Cowboy strength. Junior Raymond Cato returns after sitting out an academic suspension last season. He joins juniors Kenyatta Wright and Tarrell Knauls and senior Jack Golden in a linebacking corps that could rival Kansas State's for Big 12 supremacy.

**71%** The Cowboys' success rate on fourth-down conversions in 1997. They were successful on 12-of-17, considerably better than they were on third down conversions — 40 percent.

At cornerback, junior J.B. Flowers will handle one of the positions and junior Chris Carter will play the other corner. Seniors Trent Alexander and Ricky Thompson return at the safety position. Thompson is a sure tackler at free safety. He led the team last season with 84, including three sacks. Alexander is a big hitter with 4.65 speed.

Junior Tim Sydnies, the placekicker for the past two seasons, hit 15-of-23 field goal attempts, including 4-of-8 from 40 to 49 yards. He also was 25-of-25 on extra points to extend his streak to 27 in a row. Sophomore walk-on Russ Schwettmann punted in the spring, but that job probably will go to incoming freshman Scott Elder, who averaged 44.1 yards per punt as a high school senior.



Brian Beard

## Nathan Simmons

coach could hardly be considered ordinary, so there's reason for optimism in Stillwater, Okla. A year ago, Simmons directed Oklahoma State to its first winning season and bowl game appearance since 1988, despite the suspension of 11 players right before the start of the season for academic reasons.

With a little luck, the Cowboys could have comparable success in 1998.

Sophomore Tony Lindsay, the Big 12 Freshman of the Year, rushed for 564 yards, the most by an Oklahoma State quarterback since 1973 and the third-most on the team.

Lindsay isn't just a runner, however. He led the Big 12 in passing efficiency, completing 76-of-123 (.618) for 1,172 yards and nine touchdowns with only five interceptions.

Junior Nathan Simmons, the coach's son, and sophomore Jamaal Fobbs again form a top-notch tailback tandem. Fobbs was the Big 12's best backup running back, starting only once. But he led the Cowboys and ranked ninth in the conference in rushing with 846 yards and three touchdowns. His

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

WR 3 Terrance Richardson (Sr., 3); 4 Sean Love (Sr., 3)  
WR 80 Willie Grissom (Sr., 3); 19 Ethan Howell (Jr., 0)  
TE 86 Garrett Steggs (Jr., 1); 84 Khary Jackson (Jr., 0)  
LT 77 A. Golembiewski (Jr., 1), 63 J. Rannebarger (So., 0)  
LG 74 Chris Lewis (Sr., 3); 64 Jeff Machado (So., 0)  
C 60 Reynell Lavigne (Jr., 2); 73 Josh Lind (So., 0)  
RG 78 Adam Davis (Jr., 2); 61 D.J. Grissom (So., 0)  
RT 70 Jeremy Offutt (Sr., 3); 73 Josh Lind (So., 0)  
QB 10 Tony Lindsay (So., 1); 13 B.J. Tiger (So., 0)  
TB 1 Nathan Simmons (Jr., 2); 2 Jamaal Fobbs (So., 1)  
FB 45 Brian Aikins (Sr., 3); 30 Kevin Brown (Jr., 2)  
K 14 Tim Sydnies (So., 1); 31 Seth Condliey (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (8)

LE 95 Alton Weaver (Sr., 1); 66 Taber LeBlanc (Sr., 3)  
DT 90 Zac Akin (So., 1); 96 Eric Stevenson (Jr., 0)  
DT 92 Cortney Mallory (Jr., 2); 94 Sean Clavelle (Sr., 1)  
RE 42 Andrel Waddle (Sr., 3); 97 Zac Warner (So., 0)  
WLB32 Tarrell Knauls (Jr., 2); 55 Raymond Cato (Jr., 1)  
MLB 7 Kenyatta Wright (Jr., 2); 44 Billy Stone (Jr., 2)  
SLB 51 Jack Golden (Sr., 3); 57 Clint Metcalf (Sr., 2)  
LCB 25 J.B. Flowers (Jr., 2); 18 Trey Thomas (So., 0)  
SS 10 Trent Alexander (Sr., 3); 28 Evan Howell (Jr., 1)  
FS 9 Ricky Thompson (Sr., 1); 15 Adam Edwards (Jr., 1)  
RCB 29 Chris Carter (Jr., 1); 26 Marcus Jones (So., 0)  
P Scott Elder (Fr., 0); 27 Russ Schwettman (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters BOLD indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bob Simmons  
Home Field: Lewis Field (50,614)

1997 Record (Big 12): 8-4 (5-3)  
1998 Prediction: 2nd Big 12 South



**A**t the doorstep of career victory number 300 and birthday number 72, Joe Paterno begins his 33rd season as the head man in Happy Valley with the same thick black head of hair he had when he first arrived at Penn State in 1950. If this ageless wonder doesn't develop a touch of gray this year, he never will.



**Chris Eberly**

Few Nittany Lion squads have entered a season with so many questions marks. Penn State must replace its top passer, rusher, receiver and tackler from last year's 9-3 club. All this while revamping a defense that was mauled toward season's end.

The new faces start at quarterback, with the first bona fide quarterback controversy at Penn State in half a decade. Hoping to replace Mike McQueary are junior Kevin Thompson, McQueary's No. 2 man, and sophomore Rashard Casey, a raw but athletic talent who's had Lion fans drooling since he signed. Both have Howitzer arms but little battle experience.

Junior fullback Aaron Harris has skills to make folks forget Curtis Enis. Whether Harris gets to display his wares depends on how quickly he recovers from a torn ACL. No other back has Enis' combination of size, power and experience, but Paterno has other options. Junior Cordell Mitchell is a burner, senior Chris Eberly and junior Kenny Watson are nimble, and freshman Omar Easy is a load at 243 pounds.

Top pass-catcher Joe Jurevicius is gone, but talent remains at wide receiver. The top returnee is junior Chafie Fields, a high-wire specialist who grabbed 23 balls for 374 yards as a sophomore. Tircus Pettigrew was slowed by a foot injury most of last season, but those in the know say he has pro potential. Senior Joe Nastasi started four games before Fields bumped him from the lineup.

Tight end Cuncho Brown is a good pass catcher and a better blocker.

The offensive line figures to tip the scales at better than 300 pounds per man. That won't mean anything if the line doesn't become more consistent on the run and pass.

The starting tackles will emerge from a pool that includes seniors Floyd Wedderburn and Ryan Fagan, junior John Blick, and sophomore Kareem McKenzie. Junior Eric Cole has surfaced as a solid long guard, and sophomore Josh Mitchell will replace Phil Ostrowski at short guard.

Michigan State's 452-yard rushing outburst in the regular-season finale led to the long overdue extinction of the 250-pound defensive tackle at Penn State. Paterno realized that size is a necessity in the trenches these days, and recruited a host of burly run stuffers to help a ground defense that finished ninth in the Big Ten.

Juniors David Fleischhauer, a 270-pounder, and Imani Bell, at 309 pounds, figure to get most of the work at tackle. Also returning are standout ends Courtney Brown, a junior, sophomore Justin Kurpeikis, and Brad Sciolli, a fifth-year senior who is thrilled to be back on defense after a season at tight end.

Nobody is happier to see bigger bodies up front than middle linebacker Brandon Short, a junior who spent most of last season fending off tackles and guards because Penn State's line was so weak. A Butkus Award nominee as a sophomore, Short is a big-play specialist (witness his 24 career tackles for losses) who will make a run at All-America honors if he doesn't have to tango with so many linemen. Sophomore LaVar Arrington could be the most gifted athlete on the team, and junior Mac Morrison logged 30 tackles as a 1997 backup, so the linebacking corps should be solid.

**26** That's how many victories Paterno needs to pass Alabama's Paul "Bear" Bryant as Division I-A's winningest coach. The Bear got the W 323 times; JoePa is at 298 and counting.

Junior corner David Macklin rates among the nation's top cover men, and classmate Anthony King has more than enough experience to fill in for graduated veteran Shino Prater.

Senior free safety Shawn Lee, a 5-7, 175-pounder is the team's top returning tackler (58). The hero, or strong safety, figures to be junior Derek Fox, a 5-11, 200-pounder who hits (and covers) like a linebacker.

All of the specialists return, so the Nittany Lions appear to be in great shape. Junior Travis Forney returns to kick, after consistently knocking kickoffs into the end zone last season, and junior punter Pat Pidgeon is back as well. Pidgeon has never had a punt blocked. On a negative note, Penn State didn't return a single kickoff or punt for a score last season, which was surprising for a team with so much speed.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**SE** 2 **Chafie Fields** (Jr., 2); 21 Joe Nastasi (Sr., 3)  
**LT** 67 Kareem McKenzie (So., 1); **69 Floyd Wedderburn** (Sr., 1)  
**LG** 51 **Eric Cole** (Jr., 2); 60 Ryan Fagan (Sr., 1)  
**C** 65 Rich Stankewicz (Jr., 0); 62 Francis Spano (So., 0)  
**RG** 75 Josh Mitchell (So., 1); 50 Gabe Tinscher (Jr., 2)  
**RT** 78 **John Blick** (Jr., 2); 60 Ryan Fagan (Sr., 1)  
**TE** 82 **Cuncho Brown** (Sr., 3); 89 Tony Stewart (So., 1)  
**FB** 10 Tircus Pettigrew (Jr., 1); 13 Sam Crenshaw (So., 0)  
**QB** 16 Kevin Thompson (Jr., 0); 12 Rashard Casey (So., 0)  
**RB** 25 Aaron Harris (Jr., 2); 49 Anthony Cleary (Sr., 3)  
 23 Chris Eberly (Sr., 3); 32 Cordell Mitchell (Jr., 2)  
**K** 14 **Travis Fomey** (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE** 86 **Courtney Brown** (Jr., 2); 94 Marc Kielmeyer (So., 0)  
**DT** 57 Imani Bell (Jr., 1); 55 Greg Ransom (So., 0)  
**NT** 95 **Dave Fleischhauer** (Jr., 2); 76 Mike Buzin (Sr., 1)  
**DE** 5 Brad Sciolli (Sr., 3); 37 Justin Kurpeikis (So., 1)  
**LB** 11 LaVar Arrington (So., 1); 40 Aaron Garren (Jr., 2)  
**LB** 43 **Brandon Short** (Jr., 2); 52 Maurice Daniels (Jr., 2)  
**LB** 31 Mac Morrison (Jr., 2); 3 Ron Graham (Fr., 0)  
**CB** 19 **Anthony King** (Jr., 2); 22 Joe Gummo (Sr., 0)  
**CB** 27 **David Macklin** (Jr., 2); 10 Jue Bhawoh (So., 0)  
**SS** 4 Derek Fox (Jr., 2); 26 Matt Joyner (Sr., 2)  
**FS** 24 **Shawn Lee** (Sr., 3); 18 Askari Adams (Jr., 2)  
**P** 41 **Pat Pidgeon** (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach: Joe Paterno**  
**Home Field: Beaver Stadium (93,967)**

**1997 Record (Big 10): 9-3 (6-2)**  
**1998 Prediction: 5th Big 10**







**C**hange is everywhere at Southern California, and the hiring of new coach Paul Hackett is only the first step. There will be new players, new assistant coaches and new alignments as the Trojans undergo a major transformation following the firing of head coach John Robinson. Hackett's first team will be solid on defense and questionable on offense.



**R. Jay Soward**

Considering that the Trojans play five of their first six games at home and have a schedule that's easier than last year's, USC fans will expect at least eight wins. They may not be disappointed.

At quarterback, sophomore Mike Van Raaphorst is the front-runner to be the starter. John Fox passed for 1,940 yards and 12 touchdowns last season, but his poise, decision-making and ability to throw medium-range passes never seemed to improve during the season. Van Raaphorst impressed everyone in leading USC to a 45-21 victory over Stanford but sprained his ankle during that game and missed the rest of the season.

There is no established player at running back, and no returning back gained even 400 yards last season. The swiftest runner is junior Chad Morton, who averaged 7.1 yards per carry but has been prone to injury. Sophomore Malaefou MacKenzie emerged as a power runner but also battled shoulder injuries. Then there's junior college All-American Jabari Jackson, who redshirted

last season and has been a mystery so far. The back to watch might be freshman Sultan McCullough, an elite 100-meter sprinter. Fullback Ted Iacenda is coming off two off-season shoulder operations, but gives USC its first big fullback in years.

Wide receiver is the strength of the team. Junior R. Jay Soward (17.3 yards per reception) is probably the most explosive player in the Pac-10. Senior Billy Miller had a breakthrough year with 56 catches, and sure-handed senior Mike Bastianelli also returns. But what could really make this a special group is the addition of redshirt freshman Rod Perry Jr., who had a knee injury last year but was one of the most highly regarded prep receivers in the country in 1996. Sophomore tight end Antoine Harris is a dominating blocker and capable receiver.

The Trojans return junior Travis Claridge but have question marks at virtually every other position on the offensive line. Inconsistent seniors Ken Bowen and Rome Douglas could be the left and right tackles. But expect highly-regarded junior college transfers Matt Welch and Donta Kendrick to push their way into the lineup. The big problem could be at center, where junior Matt McShane and sophomore Eric Denmon will jockey for the starting role.

On the defensive line, USC's lack of depth at the tackle position is the team's most glaring weakness, but the ends are impressive. Sophomore end Sultan Abdul-Malik (seven sacks) is the pass rusher, with senior Lawrence Larry and talented freshman Ryan Nielsen ready at the other end.

The problem will be at tackle. Marc Matock, the undersized Aaron Williams and Ennis Davis are the only legitimate tackles on the team, and injuries here could be disastrous. Redshirt freshman Kori Dickerson could be an impact rush end.

In junior All-American candidate Chris Claiborne and senior Mark Cusano, USC boasts two of the best linebackers in the conference. The other spot will be manned by a freshman, either Mike Pollard or Darryl Knight.

**6** USC's defense returns its top six tacklers from 1997, which is the main reason the Trojans might be able to force their way into the conference's upper echelon.

A potential All-American, Daylon McCutcheon, is the top cornerback. The safeties are another bright spot, with senior Rashard Cook and David Gibson starting. The other cornerback will be sophomore Antuan Simmons, who played out of position at linebacker last year but is one of the quicker Trojans. Junior Tanqueray Clark will also fight for playing time at the position.

Senior placekicker Adam Abrams overcame early criticism by making 10-of-11 field goals and seems primed for a stellar '98. Punting is a question mark, with redshirt freshman Mike MacGillivray the only real candidate, since freshman Jeff Weichman has been injured most of the spring.

The good news is that Soward is among the most explosive kick returners in the country; he had a 95-yard return for a touchdown and 26.3 yard average.

Perry and Morton are also dangerous return men.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

**WR** 18 **R. Jay Soward** (Jr., 2); 25 Mike Bastianelli (Sr., 3)  
**LT** 78 **Rome Douglas** (Sr., 3); 72 Matt Welch (So., 0)  
**LG** 70 Donta Kendrick (Jr., 0); 62 David Pratchard (Sr., 3)  
**C** 61 Matt McShane (Jr., 1); 50 Eric Denmon (So., 1)  
**RG** 71 **Travis Claridge** (Jr., 2); 72 Matt Welch (So., 0)  
**RT** 74 **Ken Bowen** (Sr., 3); 68 Brent McCaffrey (So., 1)  
**TE** 81 **Antoine Harris** (So., 1); 89 Lonnie Ford (Fr., 1)  
**QB** 11 Mike Van Raaphorst (So., 1); 16 **John Fox** (Jr., 1)  
**FB** 46 Ted Iacenda (So., 1); 39 Marvin Powell, III (Sr., 3)  
**TB** 7 Chad Morton (Jr., 2); 21 Malaefou MacKenzie (So., 1)  
**WR** 3 **Billy Miller** (Sr., 3); 80 Larry Parker (Sr., 3)  
**K** 19 **Adam Abrams** (Sr., 3); 37 David Bell (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters

**BOLD** indicates returning starters

NUMBER after class indicates letters won

### DEFENSE (7)

**DE** 44 **Sultan Abdul-Malik** (So., 1); 96 Shamsud-Din Abdul-Shaheed (So., 1)  
**DT** 95 **Marc Matock** (Sr., 2); 99 Ennis Davis (So. 1)  
**DT** 57 Aaron Williams (Jr., 2); Darren Collins (Jr., 0)  
**DE** 56 Lawrence Larry (Sr., 3); 90 Ryan Nielsen (Fr., 0)  
**LB** 4 **Mark Cusano** (Sr., 3); 10 Jason Steen (So., 1)  
**LB** 55 **Chris Claiborne** (Jr., 2); 34 Zeke Moreno (So., 1)  
**LB** 5 Mike Pollard (Fr., 0); 17 Darryl Knight (Fr., 0)  
**CB** 1 **Daylon McCutcheon** (Sr., 3); 13 Ken Haslip (Sr., 3)  
**CB** 6 **Antuan Simmons** (So., 1); 23 Tanqueray Clark (Jr., 0)  
**FS** 8 **Rashard Cook** (Sr., 3); 2 Darnell Lacy (So., 1)  
**SS** 22 David Gibson (Jr., 2); 43 Grant Pearsall (Sr., 3)  
**P** 38 Mike MacGillivray (Fr., 0); 24 Jeff Weichman (Fr., 0)

**Head Coach: Paul Hackett**

**Home Field: Memorial Coliseum (92,000)**

**1997 Record (Pac-10): 6-5 (4-4)**

**1998 Prediction: 5th Pac-10**



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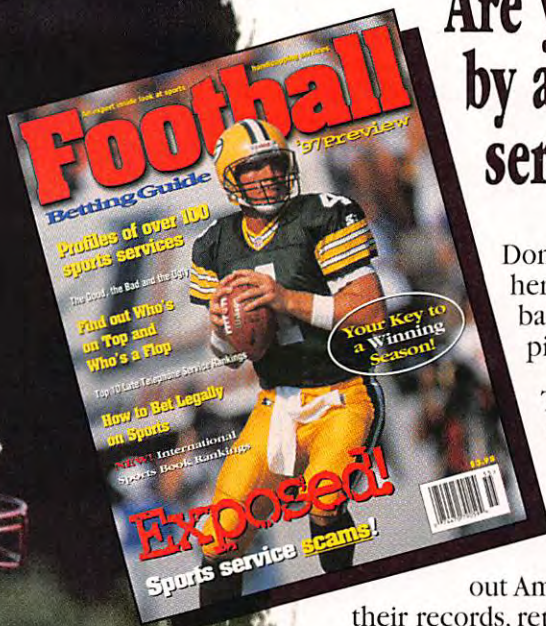
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**F**ive wins and six losses in 1997 pushed Miami as close to rock bottom as it had been in nearly 20 years, but that's what happens under the weight of injuries, scheduling burdens and a three-year strain of scholarship restrictions. Add it all up and the result was a season lost virtually before it started. "By the time we got out of the month of September," coach Butch Davis

game to the next. James dances around tacklers, Jackson runs over them.

The youthful wide receiver quartet of Reggie Wayne, Daryl Jones, Santana Moss and Andre King will stretch the field and give Covington numerous options. Wayne, who bypassed Florida for Miami, broke the school's rookie receptions mark, formerly held by Michael Irvin (46), with 48 catches.

Jones will start across from Wayne and continue to use his undersized frame to deceive the defense. Despite what his 5-10, 180-pound stature suggests, Jones runs a multitude of his routes across the middle.

Tight end Daniel "Bubba" Franks is the hardest man in the Big East to bring down.

The offensive line can only improve. The Hurricanes were devastated by injuries in the early going, and games against Arizona State, West Virginia and Florida State in the first five weeks of the season sent the team spiraling. Continuity, more than anything, is what this year's group hopes for. Leader Richard Mercier returns to full strength at left guard after surrendering 10 of 11 games to injury. Junior center Ty Wise, who is one of the finest pulling and trapping linemen in the conference, returns. Sophomore Robert Sampson is a small left tackle at

6-3, 284, but Davis covets his speed and long arms. Junior Eric Schnupp will play right guard.

Sophomores Quincy Hipps and Brian Stinson are impact players in waiting on the defensive line. Hipps has been tagged with the "potential" label for his seemingly limited skills. Stinson, as he proceeds to learn

Davis' system, is maturing into a skilled pass rusher. The Hurricanes' best lineman is sophomore right tackle Damione Lewis. Seniors Chad Pegues and Michael Lawson will split time at left tackle.

Dan Morgan burst onto the scene as the first true freshman to start for Miami at linebacker since Ray Lewis. Morgan began fall drills as a running back, then led the team with 105 tackles. Davis will go with junior Michael Smith, whose speed in pass coverage allows him to make up for his weaknesses against the run, at one linebacking position. Recruit Howard Clark drew raves from the coaches in the film room, as they watched him run from sideline to sideline like a maniac.

**8** The number of 100-yard rushing games junior Edgerrin James needs to equal the all-time Miami mark of 13, set by Ottis Anderson (1975-78).

Leonard Myers gets the vote for the group's best athlete at cornerback, but he'll garner only part-time duty along with Nick Ward at left corner. At right corner, Nate Brooks appears set. Sophomore safety Al Blades, who comes from the same lineage as current pro stars Bennie and Brian, is intriguing with his sheer talent, and sophomore Delvin Brown was a high school track star.

The kicking of Andy Crosland is remarkable. He nailed 11-of-14 field goals, but the Hurricanes expected too much from Crosland in asking him to punt, too. With new recruit Todd Sievers in the fold, Crosland will relinquish the punting duties. Do-it-all Myers will take punt returns, while Jeff Popovich returns kicks.



Courtland Richards

## Scott Covington

says, "the die was cast."

But the picture of the 1998 Hurricanes is cast through a more colorful prism, one that includes the return of 25 players who made at least one start and a full slate of scholarships for the first time since '94.

Now with numbers on his side, Davis has his team poised to contend for the Big East title and a bowl bid. But winning the title is a bit too much to ask this season.

If Miami is to recoil from its first losing season since 1979, Scott Covington, cut from the mold of the classic dropback passer, will be largely responsible. The fifth-year senior possesses a strong arm and makes throwing the deep ball look effortless. Accuracy, though, is not his greatest asset, as his 45 percent passing indicates.

Considering that the offensive line spent the year playing musical chairs, the play of junior Edgerrin James and sophomore James Jackson at tailback was uplifting. The duo registered 1,693 yards and an average of 6.3 yards per carry, and they rarely knew who would be blocking for them from one

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

SE **87 Reggie Wayne (So., 1)**; 31 Andre King (So., 1)  
LT **76 Robert Sampson (Jr., 1)**; 79 Greg Laffere (Fr., 0)  
LG 62 Richard Mercier (Jr., 0); 75 Diamond Neely (Sr., 2)  
C **64 Ty Wise (Jr., 1)**; 63 Scott Puckett (Fr., 0)  
RG 55 Eric Schnupp (Jr., 0); 66 Brett Romberg (Fr., 0)  
RT 85 Robert Hall (Jr., 1); 73 Joaquin Gonzalez (Fr., 0)  
TE **88 Daniel Franks (So., 1)**; 18 Mondriel Fulcher (Jr., 2)  
QB 11 Scott Covington (Sr., 3); 15 Kenny Kelly (Fr., 0)  
FB 30 Nick Williams (Sr., 3); 34 Wilbur Valdez (So., 0)  
RB **5 Edgerrin James (Jr., 2)**; 21 James Jackson (So., 1)  
WR **1 Daryl Jones (So., 1)**; 48 Santana Moss (So., 1)  
K **17 Andy Crosland (Jr., 2)**; 37 Jorge Gaitan (Sr., 2)

### DEFENSE (7)

DE **71 Derrick Ham (Sr., 3)**; 95 Brian Stinson (So., 0)  
DT **92 Damione Lewis (So., 1)**; 96 Adrian Wilson (So., 1)  
DE 97 Michael Lawson (Sr., 3); **94 Chad Pegues (Sr., 3)**  
DT 98 Matt Sweeney (Jr., 2); 86 Quincy Hipps (So., 1)  
LB **44 Dan Morgan (So., 1)**; 19 Tavokius Bonner (Jr., 2)  
LB 52 Nate Webster (So., 0); **51 Rod Mack (Jr., 2)**  
LB **59 Michael Smith (Jr., 2)**; 50 Javon Rhodes (So., 0)  
CB **2 Nate Brooks (Sr., 3)**; 27 Markese Fitzgerald (Fr., 0)  
CB 3 Nick Ward (Jr., 2); 22 Leonard Myers (So., 1)  
SS 7 Al Blades (So., 0); 33 Jeff Popovich (Jr., 2)  
FS 24 Delvin Brown (So., 1); 20 Edward Reed (Fr., 0)  
P Todd Sievers (Fr., 0); **17 Andy Crosland (Jr., 2)**

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Butch Davis  
Home Field: Orange Bowl (74,476)

1997 Record (Big East): 5-6 (3-4)  
1998 Prediction: 3rd Big East

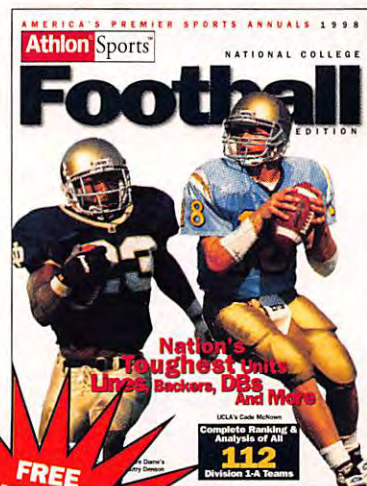


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If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, Nebraska should be flattered by Missouri's offensive philosophy.

"They look very much like Nebraska in terms of the plays they use," Colorado coach Rick Neuheisel said after his team's 41-31 loss to the Tigers last season.

In that game, Missouri had an advantage of nearly 25 minutes in time of possession

returns. West has good size as well as the speed to get outside; he's been timed at 4.4 in the 40-yard dash. West rushed for 544 yards and four touchdowns, caught five passes for 79 yards on his way to earning all-conference honorable mention.

Junior Kent Layman has big-play ability at receiver. He led the Big 12 in yards per catch, averaging 25.4, and he was second on the team in receptions with 21, good for 534 yards and four touchdowns. He is the fastest of the receivers, with 4.37 speed. Junior Kareem Wise, who is coming off a redshirt year, has good size and speed.

Senior Eddie Brooks, who was moved from wide receiver to shore up tight end, led the Tigers in receptions with 24 for 311 yards and four touchdowns.

Missouri finished second to Nebraska in the Big 12 and sixth nationally in rushing while ranking second in the conference in total offense and fourth in scoring. If the Tigers hope to match that success, they will need to develop linemen to complement tackle Todd Neimeyer and center Rob Riti.

Seniors Craig Heimbarger and Cliff Smith both started some at guard last season, while Chris Meredith is ready to start after backing up at both tackles and adding muscle as an extra lineman in short yardage sets. Sophomore Joe Glauberman can play both guard and tackle.

Missouri's rushing success was matched by its failure to stop the run. The Tigers ranked 93rd in the nation in rushing defense, allowing nearly 200 yards per game due primarily to a lack of size.

Senior Justin Wyatt, who was moved to defensive tackle from end last season, is quick off the ball and showed the speed and stamina to return an interception 92 yards for a TD against Baylor. Juniors Steve Erickson and Jeff Marriott have starters' experience at tackle and nose tackle respectively. Sophomore Barry Mazuch was moved from outside linebacker in the spring to give the Tigers more bulk at defensive end.

The Tigers need to be more physical at linebacker. Senior Marquis Gibson, the team's co-MVP on defense, has been moved to the outside linebacker position after playing defensive end, with junior Barry Odom at the other end. Both are returning starters

**34** The percentage of increase in attendance at Missouri home games. The Tigers drew an average of 52,484 to Faurot Field in 1997, compared to only 39,170 in 1996.

The secondary is solid. Nine of the top 11 defensive backs on the Holiday Bowl depth chart return, including seniors Caldronoff Easter, Harold Piersey and Wade Perkins.

The Tigers need to become more efficient in covering punts after ranking a dismal 111th nationally in net punting. Junior Vince Sebo has a strong leg and has become more consistent, but still averaged only 39.4 yards on 31 punts last season. Senior Jason Smith is also consistent but not as strong.

Redshirt freshman Jason Sproull might have been the placekicker last season if not for a thigh injury. If Sproull falters, freshman Alex St. Peter will get an opportunity to avoid a redshirt.



David Preston

## Corby Jones

with a running attack that accounted for a majority of the Tigers' 517 total yards and 29 first downs. That formula enabled Missouri to finish with a winning record and make a bowl trip for the first time since 1983. Coach Larry Smith predicted his team would turn the corner, which it did.

Now it must find a way to stay on course, and senior Corby Jones gives Missouri a solid rudder at quarterback.

Missouri had already begun promoting Jones as a Heisman Trophy candidate before last season's Holiday Bowl loss to Colorado State. The Tigers' bowl guide even included a photograph of Jones running in Heisman-like form, noting that he "already fits the mold!" Jones, who has been the starter since the middle of his freshman season, led Missouri in rushing with 887 yards and was second in the Big 12 in total offense, averaging 231.4 yards per game.

Versatile Brock Olivo has completed his eligibility, but senior tailback Devin West, the Tigers' all-purpose yardage leader,

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

WR 6 Kareem Wise (Jr., 0); 82 David Haasis (So., 0)  
 LT 64 Chris Meredith (Sr., 2); 60 Jeff Hellerstedt (Fr., 0)  
 LG 70 Cliff Smith (Sr., 3); 71 Joe Glauberman (So., 1)  
 C 76 Rob Riti (Jr., 2); 52 Michael Valadez (Jr., 1)  
 RG 57 Craig Heimbarger (Sr., 3); 75 Paul Carrizal (Fr., 0)  
 RT 69 Todd Neimeyer (Sr., 3); 74 Aaron Crittendon (Fr., 0)  
 TE 3 Eddie Brooks (Sr., 3); 92 Garrett Hill (Fr., 0)  
 QB 7 Corby Jones (Sr., 3); 11 Ryan Douglass (So., 1)  
 FB 28 Rashidi Johnson (So., 0); 35 Sean Benton (Sr., 1)  
 TB 32 Devin West (Sr., 3); 31 Ricardo Rhodes (So., 1)  
 WR 84 Kent Layman (Jr., 2); 47 John Dausman (So., 0)  
 K 16 Jason Sproull (Fr., 0); Alex St. Peter (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (6)

DG 90 Justin Wyatt (Sr., 3); 67 Danny McCamy (So., 0)  
 NT 93 Jeff Marriott (Jr., 2); 77 Pat Mingucci (Jr., 1)  
 DT 94 Steve Erickson (Jr., 2); 98 Michael Gavins (Fr., 0)  
 DE 40 Barry Mazuch (So., 1); 79 Tim Mittelstadt (Sr., 2)  
 LB 9 Marquis Gibson (Sr., 1); 95 Daryl Whittington (So., 1)  
 LB 36 Pat Duffy (So., 1); 43 Duke Revard (Fr., 0)  
 LB 39 Barry Odom (Jr., 2); 38 Paul Schmanke (Jr., 2)  
 CB 24 Carlos Posey (Jr., 2); 15 Andre Roberson (So., 1)  
 CB 22 Wade Perkins (Sr., 1); 21 Randy Potter (Sr., 3)  
 SS 1 Caldronoff Easter (Sr., 3); 26 Harold Hendricks (So., 1)  
 FS 2 Harold Piersey (Sr., 3); 14 Julian Jones (So., 1)  
 P 17 Vince Sebo (Jr., 2); 25 Jason Smith (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Larry Smith  
 Home Field: Memorial Stadium (62,000)

1997 Record (Big 12): 7-5 (5-3)  
 1998 Prediction: 3rd Big 12 North



**T**wo events — the arrival of defensive-minded head coach Mack Brown and the surprising return of Heisman Trophy hopeful Ricky Williams — have breathed an air of excitement into a Texas program that in 1997 sank to its lowest depths in a decade.

Unfortunately for the Longhorns, those positives do not guarantee an immediate

his senior season. His decision to stay, based largely on Brown's hiring, left Texas fans rejoicing and opponents lamenting. An All-American and the 1997 Doak Walker Award winner, Williams had six 200-yard rushing games last season. Joining Williams in the backfield is fullback Ricky Brown, a bruising blocker and capable runner. Hodges Mitchell is a backup to Williams.

Texas finished third in the Big 12 in passing offense last year, a rather remarkable statistic considering the inconsistent play at wide receiver. With the healthy return of senior Wane McGarity and the emergence of sophomore Kwame Cavil, the Horns have reason to hope for dramatic improvement.

Before being injured in the third game of the season, the speedy McGarity caught 10 passes for 169 yards and one score. Cavil accepted the featured role in the passing game after McGarity's injury, responding with 23 catches (a Texas freshman record) for 316 yards. Senior tight end Derek Lewis is an outstanding athlete who has displayed flashes of excellence in his career.

Left tackle Octavius Bishop, right guard Ben Adams and right tackle Jay Humphrey, all 300-pound seniors, provide a wealth of experience and powerful run-blocking ability. Roger Roesler is a solid blocker at left guard, while either Russell Gaskamp or Marcel Blanchard will step up at center.

If Texas is to improve its record in 1998, the Longhorns must receive improved play along the defensive line. Converted junior linebacker Aaron Humphrey is a solid, attacking defensive end who recorded 76

tackles last year, including 12 for losses. Chris Smith returns as a starter at the other end position. Casey Hampton, a sophomore, is Texas' strongest player and could be a run-stopping force at one tackle, while junior Cedric Woodard has developed into a dependable defender at the other tackle.

At linebacker, all three of Texas' starters from 1997 — junior outside linebackers Brandon Nava and Anthony Hicks and senior middle linebacker Dusty Renfro — return.

**66-3**

The final score of last year's disastrous home loss to UCLA couldn't be more haunting to Texas fans if it were branded on Bevo's side.

In the secondary, the good news is that sophomore free safety Donald McCowen proved to be an exceptional tackler. The bad news is that he was required to make 95 stops. The return of senior cornerback Tony Holmes, aggressive junior strong safety Aaron Babino and talented sophomore cornerbacks Quentin Jammer and Joe Walker should make the Horns' secondary better.

A longtime Longhorns strength has been the kicking game. But, with the departure of four-year placekicker Phil Dawson and three-year punter Mark Schultis, the kicking game is suddenly an area of critical concern.

Talented sophomore Kris Stockton filled in for Dawson on kickoffs as a true freshman in 1996. Stockton, who averaged 39 yards per punt in high school, also will receive a chance to replace Schultis. Competing with Stockton for punting chores will be walk-ons Jeff Baker, Ryan Long and Greg Murray.



Layne Murdoch

## Ricky Williams

return to Texas' glorious past. A brutal schedule, a new quarterback and a defensive unit that ranked 104th nationally against the run last year could leave the Longhorns gasping for air again.

Brown's philosophical changes calling for a more aggressive, attacking style, should make Texas better defensively. But, with a lack of proven playmakers, a minor bowl bid may be the most the Horns can accomplish in 1998. Even that may be a stretch.

Replacing big-play specialist James Brown, the leading passer in Texas history, will be difficult. But, while fifth-year senior Richard Walton lacks the improvisational skills and mobility of Brown, he does have a stronger arm and is more comfortable in the pocket. In 19 games, including two as a starter, Walton has completed 84-of-153 passes for 1,091 yards, five touchdowns and six interceptions.

Williams is the Texas tailback. Period. After he led the nation with 1,893 rushing yards last year, few people expected the powerful, explosive Williams to return for

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

WR 43 Kwame Cavil (So., 1); 12 Jamel Thompson (So., 1)  
 LT 75 Octavius Bishop (Sr., 3); 66 Cory Queye (So., 0)  
 LG 72 Roger Roesler (Jr., 2); 65 Travis Wood (Sr., 3)  
 C 54 Russell Gaskamp (Sr., 1); 78 Marcel Blanchard (So., 0)  
 RG 79 Ben Adams (Sr., 3); 74 Joe Hubbard (So., 0)  
 RT 67 Jay Humphrey (Sr., 3); 98 Leonard Davis (So., 1)  
 TE 82 Derek Lewis (Sr., 3); 84 J.J. Kelly (So., 1)  
 QB 10 Richard Walton (Sr., 3); 18 Greg Cicero (Fr., 0)  
 RB 11 Ricky Williams (Sr., 3); 3 Hodges Mitchell (So., 1)  
 FB 44 Ricky Brown (Jr., 2); 23 De'Andre Lewis (Fr., 0)  
 WR 8 Wane McGarity (Sr., 2); 1 Bryan White (Sr., 3)  
 K 13 Kris Stockton (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (9)

DE 49 Aaron Humphrey (Jr., 2); 93 Michael Boudoin (Sr., 3)  
 DT 50 Cedric Woodard (Jr., 2); 73 Shaun Rogers (So., 1)  
 DT 64 Casey Hampton (So., 1); 95 Gray Mosier (Sr., 3)  
 DE 87 Chris Smith (Jr., 2); 91 Will Goodloe (Jr., 2)  
 LB 51 Brandon Nava (Jr., 2); 34 Maurice Gordon (Fr., 0)  
 LB 46 Dusty Renfro (Sr., 3); 40 Josh Spoel (So., 0)  
 LB 55 Anthony Hicks (Jr., 1); 30 Cedric Mitchell (Fr., 0)  
 CB 31 Tony Holmes (Sr., 3); 17 Joe Walker (So., 1)  
 CB 6 Quentin Jammer (So., 1); 27 Chris Butcher (Jr., 0)  
 SS 38 Aaron Babino (Jr., 2); 24 Greg Brown (So., 0)  
 FS 25 Donald McCowen (So., 1); 35 Levar Jenkins (So., 1)  
 P 37 Ryan Long (Jr., 0); 21 Jeff Baker (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mack Brown

Home Field: Memorial Stadium (75,512)

1997 Record (Big 12): 4-7 (2-6)

1998 Prediction: 3rd Big 12 South



**G**iven last year's talent, it's odd that Iowa didn't have more than a 7-5 record. The Hawkeyes had ability and ranked among the top three Big Ten teams in 15 statistical categories; they led the league in rushing, scoring offense and punt returns, but couldn't quite finish off opponents on the road. So much potential, and now that team is history.



**Jared DeVries**

Coach Hayden Fry has plenty of work to do in his 20th season with Iowa. If he pulls it together without 11 starters, including tailback Tavian Banks, the Big Ten's leading rusher; all-everything Tim Dwight, who set school records for career receiving yards and punt returns; and quarterback Matt Sherman, the fourth-leading passer in school history, he can count it among his top accomplishments. Also noticeably absent is three-fourths of the defensive backfield.

Quarterback Randy Reiners played in every game and had four starts last season when Sherman was injured. Reiners, threw for 837 yards and 11 touchdowns with only four interceptions. He also rushed for 110 yards, giving the Hawkeyes a dimension it had been missing. Freshman Kyle McCann made a strong showing during spring practice and appears to have secured a backup role.

Iowa's 235-yard average led the Big Ten in rushing, a big thanks to Banks. But Banks is gone and some versatile backs are determined to fill his shoes. Rob Thein and Doug

Miller have the most experience, combining for 552 yards and three touchdowns, but watch out for redshirt freshman Ladell Betts — 5-11, 200, with good strength and ability to change direction. Iowa does return veteran fullback Michael Burger.

On paper, the Hawkeyes appear to be hurting at receiver, but Fry doesn't seem too worried. Expected to start are Tony Collins, who played in all 12 games last season, and redshirt freshman Kahlil Hill, son of NFLer J.D. Hill, one of the nation's top 10 high school receivers. Iowa will probably use its tight end more this season. Only 17 passes were completed to that position last year.

The Hawkeyes have a solid nucleus on the offensive line with three returning starters: Matt Reischl at left guard, Derek Rose at center and Chad Deal at right tackle. Rose, is considered to be near the top in the Big Ten at his position. Ben Sobieski will start on the left side and Shalor Pryor should start at right guard.

Because of the lack of depth, Fry recruited seven offensive linemen, including two junior college transfers and transfer junior Travis Raitt from Boston University. They all should see playing time early.

The Hawkeyes ranked second in the Big Ten in total defense last year, holding teams to an average of 266.1 yards. Instrumental in that was tackle Jared DeVries, the Big Ten Defensive Lineman of the Year, who pummeled quarterbacks with seven sacks. Aron Klein (66 tackles last season) adds speed and bulk at nose guard. Anthony Herron should start at the other tackle, but Ed Saidat could

also see time. Fry considers Jeff Kramer one of the best ends he has seen. Ryan Loftin should start at the other end, but don't be surprised to see junior Tariq Peterson slip into a starting role.

Linebacker Vernon Rollins returns from last year's season-ending knee injury to prove just how good he is. His absence gave Raj Clark a chance to perform, and he was runner-up in tackles with 84 behind Matt Hughes. Hughes has started 24 straight games, and last season notched a team-leading 98 tackles. Iowa fans believe Hughes and Rollins just might be the best linebacking tandem in the Big Ten. Because of Rollins' loss a year ago Travis Senters and sophomore Jeff McCracken also gained experience and will be used in the rotation this year.

**3,747**

The collective weight of this year's freshman class. It is a big group, to say the least, with 17 players averaging 6-5½ and 220 pounds.

The Hawkeyes aren't depleted in the secondary; the players just lack experience. New position coach Larry Holton is ready to sort things out. Free safety Eric Thigpen is the only returning starter. Matt Bowen should start at strong safety, with Tariq Holman and Joe Slattery at corners.

Three-year starter Zach Bromert will continue to handle extra points and short-range field goals. He was 3-of-7 on attempts of 40 yards or longer, so Greg McLaughlin will kick the long field goals. Punter Jason Baker put in a solid freshman season, averaging 40.5 yards with had eight punts inside the opponents' 20-yard line.

Collins and Hill have the speed to make an impact on returns.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**WR** 88 Tony Collins (Jr., 1); 5 Bashir Yamini (Jr., 0)  
**LT** 65 Ben Sobieski (So., 1); 74 Alonzo Cunningham (Fr., 0)  
**LG** 76 Matt Reischl (Sr., 3); 63 Jay Bickford (Jr., 0)  
**C** 64 Derek Rose (Sr., 2); 79 Travis Raitt (Sr., 0)  
**RG** 67 Chad Deal (Jr., 1); 69 Shalor Pryor (Jr., 1)  
**RT** 81 Chris Knipper (Sr., 3); 78 Glen Giesen (Jr., 0)  
**TE** 80 Zeron Flemister (Jr., 1); 82 Jed Dull (Jr., 2)  
**WR** 87 Kevin Kasper (So., 0); 3 Kahlil Hill (Fr., 0)  
**QB** 13 Randy Reiners (Jr., 1); 4 Kyle McCann (Fr., 0)  
**FB** 85 Michael Burger (Sr., 3); 35 Trevor Bollers (Sr., 3)  
**RB** 31 Rob Thein (Jr., 2); 46 Ladell Betts (Fr., 0)  
**K** 38 Zach Bromert (Sr., 3); 16 Greg McLaughlin (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE** 19 Jeff Kramer (Sr., 1); 42 Tariq Peterson (Jr., 1)  
**DT** 94 Jared DeVries (Sr., 3); 52 Steve English (Sr., 1)  
**NG** 90 Aron Klein (Sr., 3); 96 Corey Brown (Jr., 2)  
**DT** 99 Anthony Herron (So., 1); 98 Ed Saidat (Jr., 0)  
**DE** 48 Ryan Loftin (Jr., 2); 97 Lavar Woods (So., 0)  
**LB** 37 Matt Hughes (Sr., 3); 51 Travis Senters (Jr., 1)  
**LB** 56 Vernon Rollins (Sr., 3); 44 Raj Clark (Jr., 1)  
**CB** 11 Joe Slattery (Jr., 0); 20 Matt Stockdale (Fr., 0)  
**CB** 2 Tariq Holman (Jr., 1); 27 Robbertto Rickards (So., 0)  
**SS** 9 Matt Bowen (Jr., 1); 14 Ryan Hansen (So., 0)  
**FS** 21 Eric Thigpen (Sr., 3); 26 Jeff Buch (So., 0)  
**P** 7 Jason Baker (So., 1); 86 Austin Wheatley (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach:** Hayden Fry

**Home Field:** Kinnick Stadium (70,397)

**1997 Record (Big Ten):** 7-5 (4-4)

**1998 Prediction:** 6th Big Ten



**T**ommy West's first game as Clemson head coach was five seasons ago — a 14-13 win over Kentucky in the Peach Bowl. West has taken the Tigers to a bowl game every year since then, but that was also his only bowl win as Tiger boss.

For Clemson to get in position to snap a three-game bowl losing streak, a veteran

Oliver. "But they're still running and you still have to worry about the option."

The Tigers have lost receiver Tony Horne, who set a school single-season record with 68 catches. Returning starter Brian Wofford and Mal Lawyer (five starts) will try to fill in, while Rod Gardner and Matt Bailey are both tall targets (6-4) the Tigers have lacked. Tight end Lamont Hall will be replaced by redshirt freshman T.J. Watkins, who bulked up 20 pounds (6-5, 257), and Wesley Ellis.

West's biggest, deepest offensive unit features returnees: right tackle Holland Postell, left guard Corey Hulsey and center Jason Gamble. The coaches feel Postell, with 23 starts, has developed into an National Football League pass-blocking prospect, a rarity for a Clemson offensive lineman. Redshirt freshman center Kyle Young, the brother of former Clemson guard Will Young, may push Gamble later in the season. Matt Butler and redshirt freshman Neely Page might battle all season at left tackle while Brent Banasiewicz takes over for at right guard.

A two-deep defensive pass rush has been a Clemson forte since the 1980s, and last year the team ranked 16th nationally in total defense. But West must replace three starters and needs a proven play-wrecker. Candidates include defensive tackle Donald Broomfield and middle guard Terry Jolly, both who made great strides as reserves. Jolly played his way from the redshirt list to a pair of starts.

Defensive end/outside linebacker Adrian Dingle, handles the alternating part of Clemson's 3-4 and 4-3 alignments. At 6-3,

280, he's up 20 pounds from last year and is primed to improve on 4½ sacks in 10 games (three at Maryland).

So who will replace three-year All-ACC linebacker Anthony Simmons who opted for the NFL after his junior season?

"No one," West says. "We're not putting that tag on any one person."

Mond Wilson, second on the team to Simmons' 144 tackles with 85, is also gone, leaving Chris Jones (36 tackles) and Harold Means (53 tackles) to fly to the ball. Rahim Abdullah, the rangy show stopper on the unit, will charge up the outside position.

**56** Combined school records held by departed quarterback Nealon Greene, running back Raymond Priester and wideout Tony Horne, three pairs of big shoes to fill.

Four experienced defensive backs return, with Antwan Edwards and Darrel Crutchfield at cornerbacks while Robert Carswell and DoMarco Fox fill safety spots. Carswell is a fierce hitter on his way to All-ACC status and will be backed by Chad Speck, who made a game-turning fumble recovery against South Carolina and scored on a blocked punt return in the Peach Bowl. The three reserve cornerbacks (Michael Allen, Diamond Ward, David Evans) have combined for 17 starts.

David Richardson took over as the place-kicker at midseason and converted 12-of-13 field goals (with a 52-yarder at Wake Forest). Averaging 42.8 yards per punt, Kevin Laird landed 14 of those inside the 20. Edwards averaged 23.3 yards on 12 kickoff returns. He and Wofford probably will split return duties.



Courtesy Richards

## Brian Wofford

defense capable of big plays must carry the team until the offense, packed with new skill-position starters, matures.

Gone is quarterback Nealon Greene, symbolic of Clemson's recent ups and downs: four-year starter, precious few big wins. Brandon Streeter has the edge over redshirt freshmen Woodrow Dantzler and Slade Nagle, but he attempted only 21 passes and two of those were intercepted. Dantzler is shorter but has dazzling athleticism.

Career rushing leader Raymond Priester has departed, but West says that now, "We'll be much quicker. We haven't had this much speed since I've been here." Jarvis Austin Priester's understudy gets the nod, while redshirt freshman Travis Zachery will compete with junior college transfer Dymon Adams for carries. Terry Witherspoon, a better runner than blocker, got four starts and is ready for more responsibility. All the backs are interchangeable and could split time at tailback and fullback.

"They may talk more about passing," says Auburn defensive coordinator Bill

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

WR 84 Mal Lawyer (Jr., 2); 80 Matt Bailey (Fr., 0)  
LT 77 Matt Butler (Sr., 3); 62 Neely Page (Fr., 0)  
LG 71 Corey Hulsey (Jr., 2); 50 Will Merritt (Fr., 0)  
C 73 Jason Gamble (Sr., 1); 59 Kyle Young (Fr., 0)  
RG 74 Brent Banasiewicz (Sr., 1); 83 Mark Striewing (So., 0)  
RT 70 Holland Postell (Sr., 3); 67 John McDermott (So., 0)  
TE 85 Wesley Ellis (Sr., 2); 88 T.J. Watkins (Fr., 0)  
QB 14 Brandon Streeter (Jr., 1); 18 Slade Nagle (Fr., 0)  
FB 26 Terry Witherspoon (Jr., 1); 44 John Thompson (Sr., 3)  
RB 5 Jarvis Austin (So., 1); 8 Travis Zachery (Fr., 0)  
WR 25 Brian Wofford (Jr., 2); 23 Rod Gardner (So., 1)  
K 29 David Richardson (Sr., 2)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 52 Adrian Dingle (Sr., 3); 93 Terry Bryant (So., 1)  
DT 94 Donald Broomfield (Sr., 3); 76 Jason Holloman (So., 1)  
MG 92 Terry Jolly (So., 1); 95 Jovon Bush (Fr., 0)  
DT 35 Damonte McKenzie (Jr., 2); 99 Gary Childress (So., 1)  
LB 53 Rahim Abdullah (Jr., 2); 56 O.J. Childress (Sr., 3)  
LB 57 Chris Jones (Sr., 3); 51 Raj Mitchell (Fr., 0)  
LB 45 Harold Means (Jr., 2); 54 Kenzi Ross (So., 1)  
CB 30 Darrel Crutchfield (So., 1); 10 Michael Allen (Sr., 3)  
CB 1 Antwan Edwards (Sr., 3); 28 Alex Ardley (Fr., 0)  
SS 12 DoMarco Fox (Jr., 2); 40 Charles Haffey (Fr., 0)  
FS 9 Robert Carswell (So., 1); 31 Chad Speck (So., 1)  
P 37 Kevin Laird (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Tommy West  
Home Field: Memorial Stadium (81,474)

1997 Record (ACC): 7-4 (4-4)  
1998 Prediction: 4th ACC



**C**inderella is not missing her slipper, just seven starters from the Big Ten's most productive offense and four defensive starters from a team that surprised all of college football last season.

Under first-year coach Joe Tiller, who barged in with a high-octane West Coast offense from Wyoming and gave the Boilermakers their first winning season since

sophomore Matt Ludwig to take over. Johnson has good size and exceptional quickness. Coaches like his elusiveness and ability to get extra yards; Ludwig has fullback size and blocking ability.

Leading receiver Brian Alford is gone, but Gabe Cox and Isaac Jones were starters last year, and Vinny Sutherland, Donald Winston and Chris Daniels, Alford's backup, will all see playing time this season. Jones was the Boilermakers' second-leading receiver while Sutherland has exceptional speed. Freshman A.T. Simpson could have an immediate impact as a deep threat. Senior Eric Haddad will play tight end.

The offensive line will be the biggest question mark for the Boilermakers, who have lost three starters. Junior Jim Niedrach returns at center, a position he took over just before the start of last season, and sophomore Chukky Okobi is back at right guard on a line that allowed just 21 sacks.

Sophomore Brandon Gorin, who started his Purdue career on defense, has made a smooth transition to offensive tackle and should start next to Okobi. Senior Pete VanderWeele played in every game last season and will contend at left tackle. The Boilermakers will call on junior college transfer Aaron Starnes at left guard.

Two of the Big Ten's best defensive ends return in seniors Roosevelt Colvin and Chukie Nwokorie, and the strong depth that allowed plenty of rotation among the linemen last year should prove to be worth the trouble. Purdue coaches seem to think they'll have the best front four in the Big

Ten. Colvin is quick and aggressive and was rewarded with second-team All-Big Ten honors for his 71 tackles, including 22 for losses of 100 yards. Sophomore Brent Botts and junior David Nugent played in every game last season at the tackles, while Ian Allen played at tackle and on special teams.

Despite his lack of size, 5-11, 200-pound senior Willie Burroughs was moved from strong safety to outside linebacker last year, adding speed and aggressiveness. Junior middle linebacker Willie Fells used his speed to lead Purdue and finish third in the Big Ten with 131 tackles. Seniors Lee Johnson, a converted running back, and Noble Jones are contenders for the other starting spot.

**15** Where Purdue finished in the final rankings of both polls last season. The 9-3 mark was the Boilermakers' first winning record since 1984.

Three juniors return as starters in the secondary. Adrian Beasley, who had two interceptions in the Alamo Bowl and was named Defensive MVP, will be back at free safety, while Mike Hawthorne and Lamar Conard again will man the corners. Hawthorne covered the opponents' top receiver each week and had two interceptions and seven pass break-ups.

The Boilermakers will be without punter Brandon Kaser, whose 44.7-yard average was second-best in the Big Ten. His replacement is junior Danny Rogers, who was used in short punting situations and excelled at planting the ball inside the opponents' 20. Junior kicker Shane Ryan finished last season on a roll, making four of his final five field-goal attempts.



Peter Brouillet

## Roosevelt Colvin

1984, Purdue looked like the same old team in a season-opening loss to Toledo. But then the Boilers won six straight, including an upset of Notre Dame, while putting up dazzling numbers from the one-back set. This from a team Tiller said had little talent.

Tiller will have to work some magic this fall after his 9-3 debut season. High on his list is replacing quarterback Billy Dicken and receiver Brian Alford. Dicken, a first-team All-Big Ten selection last season, has graduated after guiding the league's most prolific offense (459.2 yards per game). The heir apparent is sophomore Drew Brees, the only other quarterback to see game action last season. Tiller believes Brees, who is acclaimed for his decision-making and accuracy, has a better arm than Dicken. He just lacks experience.

Edwin Watson and Kendall Matthews combined for 1,487 rushing yards last season, but the Boilers must find replacements for them in the one-back set. Look for either redshirt freshman Dondre Johnson or

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

**WR** 20 Chris Daniels (Jr., 2); 14 Vinny Sutherland (So., 1)  
**WR** 6 Isaac Jones (Sr., 3); 1 Donald Winston (Jr., 2)  
**LT** 65 Pete VanderWeele (Sr., 2); 73 David Cohen (Jr., 0)  
**LG** 75 Aaron Starnes (Jr., 0); 66 Brian Koppen (Fr., 0)  
**C** 63 Jim Niedrach (Jr., 1); 56 Chukky Okobi (So., 1)  
**RG** 56 Chukky Okobi (So., 1); 66 Brian Koppen (Fr., 0)  
**RT** 94 Brandon Gorin (So., 1); 75 Aaron Starnes (Jr., 0)  
**TE** 16 Eric Haddad (Sr., 3); 91 Matt Light (So., 1)  
**WR** 8 Gabe Cox (Sr., 1); 9 Robert Tolbert (Jr., 1)  
**QB** 15 Drew Brees (So., 1); 13 Jim Mitchell (Fr., 0)  
**RB** 24 Dondre Johnson (Fr., 0); 41 Matt Ludwig (So., 1)  
**K** 18 Shane Ryan (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (7)

**DE** 49 Chukie Nwokorie (Sr., 3); 58 Warren Moore (So., 1)  
**DT** 42 Brent Botts (So., 1); 96 Ian Allen (So., 1)  
**DT** 82 David Nugent (Jr., 2); 96 Ian Allen (So., 1)  
**DE** 59 Roosevelt Colvin (Sr., 3); 47 Chris Zurba (Sr., 3)  
**LB** 23 Willie Burroughs (Sr., 3); 35 Lee Johnson (Sr., 3)  
**LB** 40 Willie Fells (Jr., 2); 44 Doug Withers (Jr., 1)  
**LB** 32 Noble Jones (Sr., 3); 35 Lee Johnson (Sr., 3)  
**CB** 11 Mike Hawthorne (Jr., 2); 28 Henry Bell (Sr., 1)  
**CB** 22 Lamar Conard (Jr., 2); 28 Henry Bell (Sr., 1)  
**SS** 37 Todd Stelma (Sr., 1); 30 Billy Gustin (Sr., 1)  
**FS** 7 Adrian Beasley (Jr., 2); 30 Billy Gustin (Sr., 1)  
**P** 26 Danny Rogers (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Joe Tiller

Home Field: Ross-Ade Stadium (67,332)

1997 Record (Big Ten): 9-3 (6-2)

1998 Prediction: 7th Big Ten



It's been a long haul from the national championship year of 1990 to today, but Georgia Tech seems poised to climb back into the spotlight after seven years of obscurity. Coach George O'Leary has been putting things back together again.

The 1998 Jackets will field possibly their most experienced offensive backfield ever. The unflappable Joe Hamilton will run the

will be used in tandem with Wilder in short-yardage situations. Charlie Rogers and Phillip Rogers (no relation) will spell Wiley.

Tech was hurt by graduation at the receiver positions. The Jackets will use sophomore sprinter Dez White and incoming freshman Kerry Watkins to stretch the field with reliable senior Mike Sheridan (25 catches last year) giving them a sure-handed possession receiver. Both White and Watkins are blazers. To shore up depth, Tech has moved Jon Muyres from free safety to flanker. At tight end, senior Chris Myers and sophomore Mike Lillie are capable blockers and receivers, but not game-breakers.

In the offensive line there is quantity, but quality is a question. The Jackets lost only one starter (Ken Celaj) off of their offensive front. Center Craig Page, one of the strongest players on the team, is the best run-blocker and could be All-ACC. Jon Carman, who at 6-8, 357 was called "the largest human I've ever seen" by O'Leary, can move defensive linemen off the ball. Sophomore Chris Brown could be the best at getting outside to protect Hamilton on rollouts.

Graduation decimated Tech along the defensive front, but end Jesse Tarplin, a returning starter, is a tenacious pass rusher. Roderrick Roberts will move in at the other end where Felipe Claybrooks will also be used in passing situations to take advantage of his pass rushing skills. Sophomore tackles Bryan Corhen and Tony Robinson clog up the middle on running plays.

At linebacker, O'Leary must replace Keith Brooking and Ron Rogers, who combined for over 900 tackles in their careers. Delaunta Cameron returns on the outside, but there is little depth. Donte Booker, Justin Robertson and Matt Miller will man the inside positions. Incoming freshmen Jason Harrison and Kelvin Hughley are the linebackers of the future, and maybe the near future.

385

Georgia Tech's Grant Field is the oldest on-campus Division I stadium. The Jackets have won 385 games there, 20 more than second-place Tennessee has won at Neyland Stadium. Tech's stadium dates to 1913.



Peter Brouillet

## Joe Hamilton

team with five veteran running backs behind him. The offensive line is solid if not spectacular, but the receivers are inexperienced. Defensively, the ACC's worst unit may be even weaker this season. Any success in 1998 will be the result of outgunning opponents with a potent offense.

The 5-10 Hamilton came up short only in height, setting school records in passing efficiency (146.6), completion percentage (.646) and total offense (2,792 yards). Hamilton is at his best out on the corners where he is a playmaker, both with his arm and his running ability. Tech's No. 2 quarterback, George Godsey, is a redshirt freshman who has never taken a college snap.

The backfield will be the Jackets' strength with five significant contributors returning. Charles Wiley is a versatile runner, both inside and outside. Fullbacks Ed Wilder (6-2, 255) and Virgil Johnson (6-1, 242) are too strong to be brought down by one player. Offensive coordinator Ralph Frieden wants to involve Wilder more this season. Wiley is also an excellent blocker and

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

SE 17 Mike Sheridan (Sr., 3); Kerry Watkins (Fr., 0)  
LT 65 Chris Brown (So., 1); 63 Billy Madigan (Jr., 1)  
LG 75 Jason Burks (Jr., 1); 66 Kevin Knapp (So., 0)  
C 52 Craig Page (Sr., 3); 71 Noah King (So., 0)  
RG 70 Brent Key (So., 1); 77 Abe Fernandez (Jr., 0)  
RT 74 Jon Carman (Jr., 1); 73 Jesse Moody (Fr., 0)  
TE 82 Mike Lillie (So., 1); 91 Chris Myers (Sr., 3)  
QB 14 Joe Hamilton (Jr., 2); 11 George Godsey (Fr., 0)  
FB 47 Ed Wilder (So., 1); 39 Virgil Johnson (Jr., 2)  
RB 36 Charles Wiley (Sr., 3); 2 Charlie Rogers (Sr., 3)  
FL 22 Dez White (So., 1); 7 Jon Muyres (Jr., 2)  
K 13 Brad Chambers (Sr., 1); 25 Kai Cornwell (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

DE 54 Roderrick Roberts (Sr., 2); 97 Felipe Claybrooks (So., 1)  
DT 90 Bryan Corhen (So., 1); 96 Guenter Kryszon (Fr., 0)  
NG 93 Tony Robinson (So., 1); 56 Nate Stimson (Sr., 1)  
DE 41 Jesse Tarplin (Sr., 3); 68 DeShaan Simmons (Sr., 3)  
LB 55 Delaunta Cameron (Sr., 3); 51 Matt Uremovich (Fr., 0)  
LB 58 Justin Robertson (Sr., 3); 15 Josh Long (Fr., 0)  
LB 48 Matt Miller (So., 1); 18 Donte Booker (Jr., 2)  
CB 1 Jamara Clark (So., 0); 25 Troy Tolbert (So., 1)  
CB 4 Jason Bostic (Sr., 3); 43 Kofi Smith (Sr., 3)  
SS 26 Travares Tillman (Jr., 2); 30 Reggie Wilcox (Jr., 1)  
FS 27 Jerry Caldwell (Sr., 3); 16 Brian Wilkins (Sr., 3)  
P 2 Rodney Williams (Sr., 3); 81 Mel Whatley (Sr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: George O'Leary  
Home Field: Grant Field (46,000)

1997 Record (ACC): 7-5 (5-3)  
1998 Prediction: 5th ACC



If Virginia Tech doesn't flounder down the stretch, it joins the nation's elite. If the Hokies don't fire out of the gate, they likely suffer double-digit defeats.

More than just a summary of the instability that marked the Hokies' 1997 season, this fickle forecast tells where they stand for '98: somewhere in the middle.

Head coach Frank Beamer believes that

and difficult to contain, especially the shifty Stith, who earned valuable experience as the team's featured back in 1996 when Oxendine was injured.

At wide receiver, Virginia Tech is pinning its immediate hopes on a pair of redshirts: freshman André Davis and junior Ricky Hall. Davis is a sure-handed receiver but gets pushed around at the point of contact.

Hall has the size (6-3, 207) that Hokie fans have become accustomed to, though it remains to be seen whether he can parlay it into success. The coaches think he can. Redshirt freshman Reggie Samuel is a 4.4 sprinter who will work his way into the mix, as will incoming freshman Emmett Johnson.

At tight end, sophomore Derek Carter, redshirt freshman Bob Slowikowski and sophomore Greg Myers form a stable trio.

The development of the offensive line holds the key for the Hokies. Derek Smith, a late-blossoming senior, is the top returnee and a vital cog in the team's running attack. At close to 315 pounds, Smith moves with remarkable swiftness from his tackle post, acting as a human battering ram for the running backs. However, after Smith and 323-pound senior guard Dwight Vick, nothing is a guarantee.

Sophomore Josh Redding, an athletic 287 pounds, mans the other guard spot. If sophomore Dave Kadela doesn't soon grow beyond 271 pounds, the offense will suffer with him at tackle. Junior Keith Short and juco transfer Daniel Nihipali are the top center applicants.

Heading the cast on the defensive line is

junior end John Engelberger, a second-team All-Big East selection. Engelberger's strength and sometimes-explosive speed make him the Hokies' best pass rusher. At the other end, Corey Moore is a fast-maturing junior with a dash of Engelberger in his game. The returning tackles, juniors Nat Williams and Carl Bradley, both have the look of potential National Football League prospects.

The Hokies are ecstatic about their linebackers. Junior Jamel Smith is relentless. Michael Hawkes gets promoted from reserve to starter on the strength of his field savvy. And redshirt freshman Brian Welch is a red-hot prospect.

**13** A lucky number for the Hokies, who committed 13 turnovers in '97, the fewest on record at Virginia Tech in more than 60 years.

Virginia Tech was repeatedly burned by the long pass in '97. Sophomore Ike Charlton is often on the wrong end of a big play. Anthony Midget, a junior, has been around long enough to identify the fake but his skills don't match Charlton's. The hub of the unit is senior Pierson Prioleau, whose bulldog style earned him first-team All-Big East honors. Senior Keion Carpenter and former backup quarterback Nick Sorensen, a sophomore, form a suspect safety tandem.

Juniors Jimmy Kibble and Shayne Graham comprise the conference's best kicking twosome. Kibble led the league in punting (45.1 yards per kick) and finished 10th nationally, while Graham set a Big East single-season record for field goals with 19 and points with 92.



Steve Woltmann

## Pierson Prioleau

his team will play almost as well as it did in the early season, but hardly as bad as it did down the stretch. Despite the loss of 11 starters, any lingering ills from the team's late-season swoon were washed away by the strongest recruiting haul in Virginia Tech's history.

Senior Al Clark took a roller coaster ride during his first year as the starting quarterback; he was brilliant early but sustained a knee injury that derailed his effectiveness. With an arthroscopic surgery under his belt, Clark says it's time for him to shine. "One of my key goals is to make sure that we start off strong again and finish that way too."

Clark is a playmaker who has shown he can move the team by any means necessary. When he throws it, Clark rarely puts the ball in harm's way. He tossed only three interceptions in 192 pass attempts, setting a Big East single-season record for the lowest percentage of interceptions (1.56).

Replacing the graduated Ken Oxendine at running back are senior Lamont Pegues and junior Shyrone Stith. Both are small

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (3)

WR 88 André Davis (Fr., 0); 31 Reggie Samuel (Fr., 0)  
LT 74 Derek Smith (Sr., 2); 59 Anthony Lambo (So., 1)  
LG 57 Dwight Vick (Sr., 2); 60 David Campbell (Jr., 0)  
C 52 Keith Short (Jr., 1); 72 Daniel Nihipali (Jr., 0)  
RG 79 Josh Redding (So., 1); 69 Matt Lehr (So., 0)  
RT 76 Dave Kadela (So., 0); 63 Joe Marchant (Jr., 0)  
TE 85 Derek Carter (So., 1); 87 Bob Slowikowski (Fr., 0)  
QB 5 Al Clark (Sr., 3); 13 Dave Meyer (So., 0)  
FB 42 Cullen Hawkins (Jr., 2); 27 Jarrett Ferguson (Fr., 0)  
TB 7 Lamont Pegues (Sr., 1); 38 Shyrone Stith (Jr., 1)  
WR 82 Ricky Hall (Jr., 0); Emmett Johnson (Fr., 0)  
K 17 Shayne Graham (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (8)

DE 96 John Engelberger (Jr., 2); 99 Chris Cyrus (Jr., 1)  
DT 92 Nat Williams (Jr., 2); 66 Chad Beasley (Fr., 0)  
DT 77 Carl Bradley (Jr., 2); 71 David Pugh (Fr., 0)  
DE 56 Corey Moore (Jr., 1); 47 Ryan Smith (Sr., 1)  
LB 46 Jamel Smith (Jr., 2); 2 Tyron Edmond (Sr., 3)  
LB 43 Michael Hawkes (Jr., 2); 6 Lorenzo Ferguson (So., 1)  
LB 34 Brian Welch (Fr., 0); 8 Phillip Summers (So., 1)  
CB 3 Ike Charlton (So., 1); 12 Loren Johnson (Sr., 3)  
CB 9 Anthony Midget (Jr., 2); 24 Larry Austin (Fr., 0)  
SS 20 Pierson Prioleau (Sr., 3); 16 Cory Bird (So., 1)  
FS 1 Keion Carpenter (Sr., 3); 14 Nick Sorensen (So., 1)  
P 95 Jimmy Kibble (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Frank Beamer  
Home Field: Lane Stadium (50,000)

1997 Record (Big East): 7-5 (5-2)  
1998 Prediction: 4th Big East



**N**ot long after he coached the University of Kentucky basketball team to its 20th victory, Wildcats' basketball coach Tubby Smith took a telephone call from a cranky fan. The questioner wondered: "The way you're winning games is wonderful, but why can't you be more entertaining like the football team?"

No greater compliment could be paid

ful junior started the season by burning Louisville for four touchdowns and 398 yards — and he never stopped throwing darts, finishing the season by dropping 476 yards and two scores on Tennessee.

Couch's school-record 37 touchdowns and SEC-record 3,884 yards passing tell you why you'll find him near the top of every 1998 Heisman Trophy forecast.

Forgotten in UK's air raid is a surprisingly effective running game. Junior Anthony White, who will move to a slotback role this fall, delivered 100-yard games against Alabama and Indiana. Sophomore Derek Homer should get more than last year's 88 carries while moving from fullback to the featured runner in a one-back set.

Playing wide receiver at Kentucky became one of the most glamorous jobs in college football last season. Eight players contributed at least 24 receptions, and six of those performers will return. Diminutive senior Craig Yeast, who led the team with 73 catches and 10 touchdowns, plays the role of game-breaker. Jimmy Robinson delivers the tough catches over the middle. Senior Lance Mickelsen is the possession guy. Tight end Jimmy Haley can catch the short ball or the long ball.

The surest sign of the strength of this unit was this: Couch was able to play the entire season without serious injury. Mumme welcomes back four starters, led by massive, savvy tackles Kris Comstock and Jonas Liening. Jeremy Streck takes over at left guard, allowing Mike Webster to hop past center Jason Watts and assume the job at right guard.

If any player generated as many headlines in high school as Couch did, it's Johnson, who arrives from Harrodsburg High after turning down Notre Dame and Ohio State. Considering that opponents averaged 4.5 yards per carry on UK last season, look for Johnson to get a long look at defensive end.

Mumme liked the way senior defensive end Robert Jones came on in November, forcing two fumbles, and defensive tackles Mark Jacobs and Marvin Major will also have jobs until someone takes them.

Junior Jeff Snedegar has the ability and the temperament to dominate games at linebacker. Junior Lee Wesley finally settled into an outside linebacker role and contributed nine tackles for loss. Johnson figures to contend for playing time there as well.

**3,884** Passing yardage in 1997 for Tim Couch, who shattered the 32-year-old school record of 1,823 set by Rick Norton. Couch rang up nine 300-yard passing games, including three 400-yard games.

The secondary is an area where Mumme has hung a "Help Wanted" sign. UK gave up 22 touchdown passes last year. Sophomore free safety Willie Gary was named freshman all-SEC because of his tackling skills but needs to close on the ball quicker. Sophomore Eric Kelly is the only returnee at cornerback.

Senior punter Jimmy Carter had a remarkable season, averaging 40.2 yards and dropping 10 punts out of bounds inside the 20-yard line. Sophomore Seth Hanson drilled 30-of-31 extra-points and four field goals in seven attempts. Yeast is a dangerous man with punt and kickoff returns.



Dwight King

## Tim Couch

Hal Mumme for the job he did in guiding the Wildcats to a 5-6 record during his first season after arriving from Valdosta State. This was a UK team that defeated Alabama for the first time in 75 years and tilted the scoreboard by averaging nearly 32 points and 474 yards per game.

Good. But not good enough.

So says Mumme, who understands there must be real growth in expectations. Nothing less than a winning record and a bowl game will be acceptable this season.

Doable eventually, but not likely this year. Although the Wildcats return nine starters from an offense that rang up an average of 28.5 points on Florida, Tennessee, LSU and Mississippi State — all losses — too many holes remain on defense. Defense was the emphasis of a dynamite recruiting class led by *USA TODAY* Defensive Player of the Year Dennis Johnson, but the unit remains too young to withstand trips to play SEC foes.

Tim Couch didn't need much time to adjust to Mumme's multiple-wide receiver air attack — maybe one series. The power-

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

WR 3 Craig Yeast (Sr., 3); Quentin McCord (So., 1)  
LT 64 Jonas Liening (Sr., 3); 75 Matt Brown (Fr., 0)  
LG 77 Jeremy Streck (Sr., 2); 79 Nolan DeVaughn (Fr., 0)  
C 57 Jason Watts (Sr., 3); 58 Aaron Daniel (So., 1)  
RG 67 Mike Webster (Sr., 1); 74 Omar Smith (Jr., 1)  
RT 70 Kris Comstock (Sr., 3); 56 Dave Berringer (Sr., 3)  
TE 37 Jimmy Haley (Jr., 2); 85 James Whalen (Jr., 1)  
WR 21 Lance Mickelsen (Sr., 1); 9 Jimmy Robinson (Jr., 1)  
QB 2 Tim Couch (Jr., 2); 15 Dusty Bonner (So., 1)  
RB 42 Derek Homer (So., 1); 35 A.J. Simon (Jr., 1)  
SB 32 Anthony White (Jr., 1); 84 Alex Herman (So., 0)  
K 10 Seth Hanson (So., 1); 96 Marc Samuel (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (5)

DE 41 Matt Layow (So., 1); Dennis Johnson (Fr., 0)  
DT 99 Mark Jacobs (Sr., 3); 95 Gordon Crowe (Jr., 2)  
DT 98 Marvin Major (Sr., 2); 97 George Massey (Jr., 2)  
DE 92 Robert Jones (Sr., 1); 50 Grayson Smith (So., 1)  
LB 54 Teddy Neptune (So., 0); 34 Lee Wesley (Jr., 2)  
LB 17 Jeff Snedegar (Jr., 2); 93 John Rader (So., 1)  
LB 34 Lee Wesley (Jr., 2); 30 Marlon McCree (So., 1)  
CB 20 Eric Kelly (So., 1); 47 Andre' Hayslip (So., 1)  
CB 38 Jeremy Bowie (So., 0); 5 Marvin Love (Sr., 1)  
SS 36 Kenneth Grant (So., 1); 49 Jeff Zurcher (Sr., 2)  
FS 27 Willie Gary (So., 1); 48 Stephan Walters (Sr., 2)  
P 18 Jimmy Carter (Sr., 3); Andy Smith (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Hal Mumme  
Home Field: Commonwealth Stadium (57,800)

1997 Record (SEC): 5-6 (2-6)  
1998 Prediction: 4th SEC East



**W**hen the end of November came, Utah coach Ron McBride wanted to keep playing, saying the Utes were "playing well enough right now that we could beat anybody."

Losses to SMU and Tulsa cost the Utes (6-5) a bowl bid, so they have to wait until September to resume the upswing.

Having rediscovered a defense and found

year. Mike Anderson, arriving in August from junior college, "really answers our problems," McBride says. The Utes will rely more on a one-back scheme this season.

Senior Daniel Jones thrived in Kevin Dyson's shadow, with 41 catches in nine games. Now he's the primary target. Junior Boo Bendinger is dependable at the slot, and the third starter will come from among junior Donny Utu, Jerome Anderson or junior college transfer Demetrius Posey.

Senior tight end C.J. Johnson is back from injury, and Dirk Christoffersen has improved steadily.

Utah's line was dominant at times but inconsistent. With the graduation of All-WAC first-team guard Danny Davis, the best player is senior left tackle Nathan Sybrowsky, who moves well at 300-plus pounds. Senior Josh Cochran established himself at right tackle. Senior Darren Walker returns at center, but could move to guard if sophomore Steve McKane is ready. Todd Jackson and Sam White both have started at guard.

By the end of the 1996 season, Ute defensive coordinator Kyle Whittingham was "petrified every week" about opponents running the ball. Last year was another story; Utah improved to No. 2 in the WAC in total defense and No. 3 against the run. But the pass rush mustered 23 sacks in 11 games a year ago and could use more starch.

Senior Pene Talamaivao is a strong presence in the middle. Tackle Mike Thomas had five sacks as a junior college transfer. Junior John Frank has added enough weight to make him a force at end, and juniors

Tony Hingano or Bobby Enosa will take the other end.

Whittingham's defense is designed for senior rover Phil Glover to be all over the field. "Every time you look up, he's making a play," Whittingham says. Glover combines strength and speed.

Jason Hooks started at middle linebacker in '96 but missed last season with an injury. He's outside with junior Everest Matagi, while senior Cyrus Satoaifaiga and junior Taulia Lave will battle in the middle.

**5**

The Utes have posted five consecutive winning seasons under coach Ron McBride, the longest streak for the program since 1928-42, when Utah had 15 consecutive seasons with a winning record.

Senior Robert Love has led Utah in tackles for two seasons at two different positions. He's a natural strong safety. Kimball Christianson started at free safety as a redshirt freshman and never was beaten deep. Junior cornerback Teneil Ethridge excels in man-to-man coverage and broke up 11 passes last season. Senior David Richards was steady at the other corner.

Safety Brandon Dart is back from injury and will play at least in extra-defensive back situations, and so could junior college transfers Jeff Ray and Jay Hill.

Junior Chris Hunter is occasionally spectacular as a punter, with 12 kicks of 50 yards or longer and a 43-yard average. Utah ranked second in the WAC in net punting. Kicker Tommy Truhe was inconsistent, making 14-of-22 field goals and missing at the wrong times.

Utah will miss Dyson's kick-return ability, but Jones is a threat.



**Phil Glover**

a quarterback, the Utes look forward to '98. "We should get better," McBride says.

Jonathan Crosswhite finished third in the WAC in passing efficiency but opens the 1998 season No. 2 on the depth chart. Darnell Arceneaux led the Utes to late-season wins over Rice and BYU as a redshirt freshman, and established himself as No. 1. Arceneaux hopes to settle in for a long ride. "We're excited about seeing what he'll do," says offensive coordinator Tommy Lee.

Arceneaux was sharp against BYU, completing 13-of-21 passes for 208 yards and rushing for another 63 yards. His multi-dimensional skills make him intriguing, especially with three years to play.

The Utes claimed two of the WAC's top 12 rushers last season, and they're both gone. Juan Johnson completed his eligibility and Chris Fuamatu-Ma'aafala entered the National Football League Draft. "We never expected to lose Chris," Lee says.

Omar Bacon was activated from a redshirt season in 1996 when Fuamatu-Ma'aafala was injured, then redshirted last

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

WR	25 Donny Utu (Jr., 2); 5 Jerome Anderson (Sr., 1)
LT	72 Nathan Sybrowsky (Sr., 3); 59 Doug Kaufusi (Fr., 0)
LG	50 Sam White (So., 1); 76 Luis Park (Jr., 0);
C	55 Darren Walker (Sr., 3); 66 Steve McKane (So., 1)
RG	69 Todd Jackson (Sr., 3); 73 Hema Kalaoa (Sr., 1)
RT	58 Josh Cochran (Sr., 2); 74 Devin Grant (Sr., 0)
TE	84 C.J. Johnson (Sr., 1); 88 Dirk Christoffersen (Sr., 2)
QB	14 Darnell Arceneaux (So., 1); <b>16 J. Crosswhite (Sr., 1)</b>
RB	24 Omar Bacon (Jr., 2); 6 Thomas Fortune (Fr., 0)
SB	9 Boo Bendinger (Jr., 2); 5 Jerome Anderson (Sr., 1)
WR	80 Daniel Jones (Sr., 1); 1 Clifford Russell (Fr., 0)
K	22 Tommy Truhe (Jr., 1); 11 Matt Comins (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

DE	93 John Frank (Jr., 2); 47 Andy Bowers (So., 1)
DT	99 Mike Thomas (Sr., 1); 71 Ronnie Price (Fr., 0)
DT	91 Pene Talamaivao (Sr., 2); 75 Rod Talaeai (Jr., 0)
DE	95 Tony Hingano (Jr., 0); 94 Bobby Enosa (Jr., 0)
LB	7 Phil Glover (Sr., 1); 19 Howard Christianson (So., 1)
LB	31 Cyrus Satoaifaiga (Sr., 1); <b>85 Taulia Lave (Jr., 2)</b>
LB	52 Everest Matagi (Jr., 2); 49 Jason Hooks (Sr., 3)
CB	30 Teneil Ethridge (Jr., 2); 21 Andre Dyson (So., 1)
CB	34 David Richards (Sr., 2); 27 Marc Merritt (Sr., 3)
SS	35 Robert Love (Sr., 3); 28 Jamal Allen (Sr., 2)
FS	10 Kimball Christianson (So., 1); 42 Brandon Dart (Sr., 1)
P	86 Chris Hunter (Jr., 2); 11 Matt Comins (Fr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Ron McBride

Home Field: Rice Stadium (46,500)

1997 Record (WAC): 6-5 (5-3)

1998 Prediction: 1st WAC Pacific



**W**ith a hard-hitting defense dubbed "Gang Green," Oregon went to the Rose Bowl after the 1994 season and to the Cotton Bowl a year later.

Gang Green has become "gangway." The Ducks ranked 10th in the Pacific-10 Conference in total defense last season and 102nd nationally. The potent Oregon offense carried the load as the Ducks went

The Ducks don't have an heir apparent to Saladin McCullough, the Pac-10's leading rusher. Each candidate has something to offer: Junior Derien Latimer is the best all-around runner; senior Kevin Parker is a gifted receiver; sophomore Jason Cooper and junior Jerry Brown have speed. The job won't be decided until fall camp.

At fullback, junior college transfer Chad Chance will be given a chance to replace steady Eric Winn.

The Ducks won't have a receiver with the world-class speed of Pat Johnson, but they aren't worried. They get back senior Damon Griffin, a second-team all-league pick in 1996 who missed last season with a thumb injury. The other starter is possession-type playmaker Tony Hartley, who caught eight TD passes last season.

The question in the receiving corps is at tight end, where senior Jed Weaver will be challenged by Juco transfer Enyi Nwamuo and redshirt freshman Justin Peelle.

Last season was supposed to be a rebuilding year for the Oregon offensive line, but instead the Ducks reloaded. Oregon loses only one starter and builds around senior tackles Marco Aguirre and Michael Klews and senior guard Stefan deVries. Add junior center Deke Moen (seven starts) and sophomore Lee Gundy (three) and the Ducks have experience.

The Oregon defensive line shouldered much blame for a team that ranked last in the Pac-10 in rushing defense and sacks. The Ducks should remain a 4-3 defense with Foster as coordinator, but there's no proven impact player up front.

Senior tackle Leie Sualua and ends Saul Patu, a sophomore, and Terry Miller, a junior, are returning starters, with Masi Heamish the fourth starter. Also in the mix are juco transfer Faiva Talaai, sophomore Jason Nikolao and freshman Zack Freiter.

Nobody in the Pac-10 made more tackles last season than Oregon linebacker Peter Sirmon, who had 104, including 76 solo. Middle linebacker will be a battle between seniors Chris Vandiver and Jeff Simpson. At outside linebacker, the Ducks hope to bring speed and pressure with former strong safety Dietrich Moore, a junior. He'll be pushed by sophomore Garrett Sabol.

**12-3**

In Bellotti's three seasons, that's Oregon's record in games decided by seven points or less. At 22-13, Bellotti has won more games in his first three seasons than any coach in school history.

The 1997 Ducks ranked ninth in the league in passing efficiency defense. Rashad Bauman started all year at cornerback as a true freshman last season. Senior Eric Edwards mans the other corner while Michael Fletcher returns at strong safety. Free safety will be contested by junior Brandon McLemore, a former starter there, and junior Justin Wilcox.

Senior punter Josh Bidwell averaged a modest 41 yards per punt, but sacrificed his average for placement. Only 17 of his 60 boots were returned, and he has never been blocked. Bellotti signed JC transfer Nathan Villegas to provide an end-zone leg on kick-offs and to boost a field goal unit whose longest was 32 yards. The loss of McCullough and Johnson leaves a huge hole in the return game.



Brian Johnson

## Peter Sirmon

7-5, including a convincing win over No. 23 Air Force in the Las Vegas Bowl.

In '98, the Ducks are counting on a new defensive coordinator, Bob Foster, to help return Oregon to contention for a league title and a New Year's Day bowl. "If we can win six and seven games and have a defense that played statistically as poorly as ours, imagine if we were just in the middle of the pack," says coach Mike Bellotti.

The Ducks aren't without some questions on offense, but after four straight winning seasons and the most wins in the Pac-10 during that stretch (31, tied with Washington), Bellotti's offensive system is proven.

Two quarterbacks weren't too many for Oregon, which started Akili Smith seven times and Jason Maas five times last season and often played them both in the same game. Both passed for more than 1,000 yards and combined for 27 of a school-record 28 touchdown passes.

This season, Bellotti would like someone to claim the job, and the physically imposing Smith enters as the frontrunner.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

SE	5	Damon Griffin (Sr., 3); 26 Ray Brust (Jr., 2)
LT	69	Marco Aguirre (Sr., 1); 79 Paul Driver (Jr., 0)
LG	63	Stefan deVries (Sr., 2); 94 Al Cotton (Fr., 0)
C	65	Deke Moen (Jr., 1); 66 Chad Normoyle (Sr., 0)
RG	76	Lee Gundy (So., 1); 61 Mike Armendariz (Sr., 0)
RT	74	Michael Klews (Sr., 2); 53 Josh Beckett (Jr., 0)
TE	81	Jed Weaver (Sr., 2); 84 Justin Peelle (Fr., 0)
QB	11	Akili Smith (Sr., 1); 12 Jason Maas (Sr., 2)
FB	31	Chad Chance (So., 0); 16 Chris Young (Jr., 1)
TB	6	Derien Latimer (Jr., 2); 24 Kevin Parker (Sr., 3)
FL	2	Tony Hartley (Jr., 2); 10 Donald Haynes (Sr., 1)
K	47	Nathan Villegas (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (9)

DE	38	Terry Miller (Jr., 1); 91 Anthony Martin (Sr., 1)
DT	96	Masi Heamish (Sr., 0); 56 Caleb Smith (Jr., 2)
DE	86	Leie Sualua (Sr., 1); Faiva Talaai (Jr., 0)
DT	48	Saul Patu (So., 1); 98 Jason Nikolao (So., 1)
MLB	39	Chris Vandiver (Sr., 2); 58 Jeff Simpson (Sr., 1)
ILB	44	Peter Sirmon (Jr., 2); 51 Tim Shear (Fr., 0)
OLB	29	Dietrich Moore (Jr., 2); 35 Garrett Sabol (So., 1)
CB	4	Eric Edwards (Sr., 3); 14 Steve Smith (Fr., 0)
CB	17	Rashad Bauman (So., 1); 23 Tamoni Joiner (So., 1)
SS	1	Michael Fletcher (Jr., 2); 3 Gary Barker (So., 1)
FS	19	Justin Wilcox (Jr., 2); Brandon McLemore (Jr., 2)
P	40	Josh Bidwell (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mike Bellotti  
Home Field: Autzen Stadium (41,698)

1997 Record (Pac-10): 7-5 (3-5)  
1998 Prediction: 6th Pac-10



**S**eventy yards. In the old days, BYU passed for that much on one drive. Yet last November, that was the Cougars' total in one game, a loss to rival Utah.

The school that seemingly invented the pass went backward in 1997. BYU went through three quarterbacks and settled more than ever for handing off the football.



**John Tait**

The result: a 6-5 record and no bowl trip.

Offensive coordinator Norm Chow promises things will change this season. "We're going to get back to the thing we know best," he says. If the Cougars rediscover their passing game and stop opponents from having so much success through the air, BYU could return to the WAC Championship Game.

"You can really see progress," coach LaVell Edwards said after spring drills.

When Kevin Feterik's ankle was healthy, BYU's offense often resembled its traditional self. The Cougars averaged 227 passing yards a game, second in the WAC. The junior left-hander is more of a scrambling playmaker than a polished passer, but should mature this season.

The Cougars could have used running back Ronney Jenkins last year. Jenkins red-shirted and still has three seasons to play. He gained 733 yards as a freshman in '96.

Aaron Cupp became the starting fullback late last season, but sophomore Kalani Sitake moved ahead of Cupp in spring

drills. Even with the re-emphasis on passing, BYU should average more than last season's 108 rushing yards a game, which ranked 15th in the WAC.

Top receiver Ben Cahoon is gone and Aaron Roderick and Margin Hooks were erratic, but Chow is confident the receivers will play better as a group. Junior college transfer Jonathan Pittman will join transfer Tacoma Fontaine in the rotation.

At tight end, sophomore Tevita Ofahengaue was the discovery of the spring. The position is vital to BYU's offense and the Cougars have struggled to find a capable player.

Besides losing two senior starters, BYU's offensive line was hurt when tackle Eric Bateman entered the NFL draft. But while depth is a concern, the five line starters look solid.

Everything starts with junior left tackle John Tait, a mobile 290-pounder. Senior Hau'oli Joe Wong mans the other tackle, while junior college transfers Matt Johnson and John Skiba hold down the guard spots, joining center Jimmy Richards.

The Cougars fell to 10th in the WAC in total defense. Because of holes in the secondary, defensive coordinator Ken Schmidt became conservative. He's sure to be more aggressive this season, having studied Vanderbilt's pressure scheme.

"Sometimes, we'll rush anywhere from five to eight guys," he says. The front four won't have to do all the work, even if junior right end Byron Frisch is a force by himself.

Tackles Daren Yancey and Issiah Magalei and end Ed Kehl return as senior starters, and Yancey claims the Cougar line is the biggest and most athletic in the conference.

Converted fullback Rob Morris is a 250-pounder who can run and is developing into a solid middle linebacker. Outside linebacker Brad Martin had seven fumble recoveries in 1996. The other outside backer will be special-teams star Derik Stevenson or Justin Ena.

**4.18**

Offensive coordinator Norm Chow was "afraid" to report this figure, because he knew its accuracy would be questioned. But BYU coaches clocked running back Ronney Jenkins in 4.18 seconds for 40 yards this spring.

Schmidt had to piece together the secondary on a weekly basis last season, and the Cougar defensive backfield struggled, intercepting a WAC-low four passes and allowing nearly 200 yards a game through the air. BYU forced only 11 turnovers, resulting in a minus-10 ratio for the team.

"We're going to be a lot better in the secondary," Schmidt says. Chris Ellison joins Jason Walker and Tyler Nelson to give BYU three players with starting experience at the two safety positions.

The real key to Schmidt's defensive plans is at cornerback, where Jack Williams should settle in and where speedy junior college transfer Heshimu Robertson proved himself during the spring. Another transfer, Brian Gray, will come in August.

Owen Pochman, a left-footer who followed his brother Ethan as the Cougar kicker, was dependable, making two field goals in both of BYU's three-point victories.

J.D. Hartsfield averaged 41.3 yards a punt. Jaron Dabney added excitement to the return game with an 83-yard punt return and 70-yard kickoff return.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

WR	83	Margin Hooks (So., 1); Jonathan Pittman (Jr., 0)
LT	75	John Tait (Jr., 2); 69 Aaron McCubbins (Fr., 0)
LG		John Skiba (Jr., 0); 77 Shane Magalei (So., 1)
C	66	Jimmy Richards (So., 1); 68 Jason Soukanec (Fr., 0)
RG		Matt Johnson (Jr., 0); Kam Valgardsen (So., 1)
RT		Hau'oli Joe Wong (Sr., 1); Craig Schmitt (Jr., 0)
TE		Tevita Ofahengaue (So., 1); 5 Nate Foreman (So., 1)
QB	7	Kevin Feterik (Jr., 2); 12 Drew Miller (So., 1)
FB		Kalani Sitake (So., 1); 26 Aaron Cupp (Sr., 3)
RB	16	Ronney Jenkins (So., 1); 22 Jaron Dabney (So., 1)
WR	17	Aaron Roderick (Sr., 1); Tacoma Fontaine (Jr., 0)
K	27	Owen Pochman (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (8)

DE	56	Ed Kehl (Sr., 3); Hance Olsen (So., 1)
DT	97	Daren Yancey (Sr., 3); 58 Chris Hoke (So., 1)
DT	98	Issiah Magalei (Sr., 2); 94 Ifo Pili (Fr., 0)
DE	93	Byron Frisch (Jr., 2); 99 Setema Marti (So., 1)
LB		Derik Stevenson (Sr., 2); Justin Ena (Fr., 0)
LB	47	Rob Morris (Jr., 2); 49 Jeff Ellis (Sr., 3)
LB	10	Brad Martin (Sr., 3); Stan Moleni (Fr., 0)
CB	3	Jack Williams (Jr., 1); 6 Kevon Morton (So., 1)
CB		Heshimu Robertson (So., 0); Doug Henstrom (Jr., 1)
SS	4	Chris Ellison (Sr., 2); 29 Tyler Nelson (Jr., 2)
FS	2	Jason Walker (Sr., 3); 9 Jason Anderson (Fr., 0)
P	29	J.D. Hartsfield (Sr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: LaVell Edwards  
Home Field: Cougar Stadium (65,000)

1997 Record (WAC Record): 6-5 (4-4)  
1998 Prediction: 2nd WAC Pacific



**A**fter eight consecutive seasons of finishing among the nation's Top 25 teams, Colorado dropped out of sight in 1997. And the drop was precipitous, considering last year's expectations. One publication even picked the Buffaloes No. 1 in the preseason.

Instead, Colorado endured its first losing season since 1984. "Everyone has blood on

The Buffaloes talked of a need to run the ball more effectively last season, but the talk didn't translate into action. They ranked 69th nationally. Even so, tailback seems to be a strength with the return of senior Marlon Barnes, whom Colorado is promoting as a Doak Walker Award candidate, and junior Dwayne Cherrington, the team's leading rusher last season.

When Colorado needs a fullback, redshirt freshman David Andrews is available.

Senior Darrin Chiaverini and junior Marcus Stiggers are returning starters at wide receiver. Chiaverini was second on the team in receptions and receiving yards. His 35 catches for 461 yards ranked fifth in the Big 12. Sophomore Tom Ashworth, who was used at offensive tackle a year ago, will step in as a tight end this season.

Senior Adam Reed and junior Ryan Johanningmeier are returning starters on the offensive line, and junior Brad Bedell has recovered from a back injury that led to a medical redshirt in '97. Junior Shane Cook also is healthy after missing much of last season with a partial tear of an anterior cruciate ligament. Andre Gurode likely will be the first redshirt freshman to start in the Colorado offensive line since Joe Garten did it in 1987. Victor Rogers, another redshirt freshman, also is ready to step up.

On the defensive side, senior end Nick Ziegler was involved in 68 tackles last season. He will sit out the first game of the season, though, after breaking team rules. Sophomore Brady McDonnell will start in his place. Junior Fred Jones returns at the

other end. Junior Jesse Warren is an active nose tackle. Aaron Marshall, who was expected to clog the middle, suffered a knee injury and will miss the season.

Senior weak-side linebacker Hannibal Navies, a third-team All-Big 12 selection by the coaches, was second among the Buffaloes in tackles last season with 130. Sophomore middle linebacker Ty Gregorak was the only true scholarship freshman to avoid a redshirt last season. Seniors Brandon Southward and Terrell Cade are the most experienced of the other linebackers.

**69** The Buffaloes rank among NCAA Division I-A teams in rushing offense last season. They have to do a better job to take pressure off the quarterback.

Cornerbacks Marcus Washington, a senior, and Damen Wheeler, a junior, were solid last year. Washington, who earned All-Big 12 honorable mention, has good size as well as speed. He was the leading tackler in the secondary and broke up 10 passes to become Colorado's career leader. Wheeler also received all-conference honorable mention. Strong safety Rashidi Barnes, a junior, was the Big 12 Defensive Player of the Week after intercepting a pass and returning it 26 yards for a tying touchdown in a victory against Colorado State.

Sophomore John Sanders and freshman Albus Brooks are the candidates at free safety. Junior Jeremy Aldrich set a school record for field-goal efficiency by hitting on 12-of-14 (.857). Junior Nick Pietsch returns as punter. Sophomore cornerback Ben Kelly ranked second nationally in kick-off returns, averaging a school-record 31.1 yards on 25 returns.



John Betancourt

## Marcus Stiggers

their hands," says coach Rick Neuheisel, who became the subject of a "Neuheisel Must Go" Web site.

The Buffaloes can regroup this season. The problem is, they now must contend not only with perennial power Nebraska, but also with upstart Kansas State and rejuvenated Missouri in the Big 12 North Division.

Neuheisel isn't ready to give up on throwing the ball, despite the uncertainties of weather that plagued Colorado late in the season. There is still a place for a pass-oriented offense in a conference dominated by the run. "But you had better be darn good at it," he says.

Although their production dropped off significantly, the Buffaloes led the Big 12 in passing in 1997.

Junior Jeremy Weisinger and sophomore Adam Bledsoe are the top candidates to replace John Hessler at quarterback, though Neuheisel also looked at junior college transfer Michael Moschetti at quarterback in the spring, just to be certain. Moschetti will play safety in the fall.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

WR 19 Javon Green (So., 1); 14 Cedric Cormier (Fr., 0)  
 LT 72 Shane Cook (Jr., 2); 75 Erin Huizingh (Fr., 0)  
 LG 76 Brad Bedell (Jr., 0); 73 Kane Cullum (Jr., 1)  
 C 53 Adam Reed (Sr., 2); 60 David Herrick (Fr., 0)  
 RG 65 Andre Gurode (Fr., 0); 62 Chris Morgan (Jr., 1)  
 RT 58 Ryan Johanningmeier (Jr., 2); 73 Kane Cullum (Jr., 1)  
 TE 87 Tom Ashworth (So., 1); 88 Miles Koon (Fr., 0)  
 QB 1 Jeremy Weisinger (Jr., 2); 12 Adam Bledsoe (So., 1)  
 TB 9 Marlon Barnes (Sr., 2); 10 Dwayne Cherrington (Jr., 2)  
 WR 6 Darrin Chiaverini (Sr., 2); 15 Eric McCready (So., 1)  
 WR 2 Marcus Stiggers (Jr., 2); 17 Robert Toler (Jr., 2)  
 K 9 Jeremy Aldrich (Jr., 2); 22 Derek Moore (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (5)

DE 13 Fred Jones (Jr., 1); 80 Ian Loper (So., 1)  
 DT 94 Sean Jarne (So., 1); 97 Justin Bannan (Fr., 0)  
 NT 98 Jesse Warren (Jr., 2); 69 Chan Moody (Sr., 3)  
 DE 82 Brady McDonnell (So., 1); 57 Nick Ziegler (Sr., 3)  
 WLB 8 Hannibal Navies (Sr., 3); 58 Jonah Chun (Sr., 0)  
 MLB 35 Ty Gregorak (So., 1); 48 Terrell Cade (Sr., 3)  
 SLB 66 Brandon Southward (Sr., 3); 6 Scott Nemeth (Fr., 0)  
 CB 2 Damen Wheeler (Jr., 2); 28 Terrance Wood (Fr., 0)  
 CB 37 Marcus Washington (Sr., 3); 25 Nate Wright (Fr., 0)  
 SS 26 John Sanders (So., 1); 21 Albus Brooks (Fr., 0)  
 FS 40 Rashidi Barnes (Jr., 2); 7 Mike Moschetti (Jr., 0)  
 P 47 Nick Pietsch (Jr., 2); 9 Jeremy Aldrich (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Rick Neuheisel  
 Home Field: Folsom Field (51,808)

1997 Record (Big 12): 5-6 (3-5)  
 1998 Prediction: 4th Big 12 North



**A** 5-6 record will not cut it for East Carolina coach Steve Logan. Last season's losing mark was the Pirates' first since 1993 and Logan, not a man to mince words, stresses another sub-.500 campaign will not be acceptable.

"We underachieved terribly last season," he says. "We've got to get back on track."

If East Carolina is to do so, and most

In the backfield, Logan often employs a one-back set. This fall, look for sophomore Jamie Wilson to be the key Pirate carrier. Wilson needs to increase his average yards per carry of 3.4 up over 4.0. If so, ECU may be in business. If he has a breakout junior year, as former star Scott Harley did back in 1996, ECU could notch nine wins.

Although the fabulous duo of Jason Nichols and Larry Shannon is gone, many talented wideouts return, led by senior Troy Smith, who would be capable of amassing 1,000 receiving yards this fall if ECU's passing attack were not so balanced. There is also proven junior LaMont Chappell, who makes up for his lack of speed with excellent hands. Senior Alphonso "Buck" Collins is C-USA's second-best tight end (behind Louisville's Ibn Green) and a dangerous weapon.

Senior center Danny Moore, a first-team all-conference returnee, is the anchor of the Pirate offensive line and a possible NFL draftee. The projected tackles are senior Dwayne Ledford, moved from the defensive line where he started last season, and sophomore Anthony Nobles. The guard spots are manned by junior Mondell Corbett and sophomore Sherwin Laceywell.

On the defensive side, three seniors, tackles Brian Johnson, Norris McCleary and nose guard Travis Darden will anchor the line. Though not particularly dominating, the trio shows nice chemistry.

The ECU 3-4 alignment allows Logan to exercise his penchant for playing numerous linebackers. Senior outside backer Roderick Coleman emerged last season as a prime-

time player. And he will only get better this fall. A second-team All-C-USA choice, Coleman, who recorded an impressive 15 sacks, will challenge for the league's Defensive Player of the Year award. Like Coleman, junior inside man Jeff Kerr, the team's leading tackler with an almost unheard-of 167 stops, was a second-team all-conference pick. The other outside linebacker will be sophomore Marc Yellock, while fellow sophomore Brian Ray rounds out the unit.

Junior right cornerback Forrest Foster is East Carolina's best pass defender, and senior free safety Kelvin Suggs has a knack for finding the ball carrier. Senior Kendrick Phillips firmly established himself last fall as the starting strong safety and is backed ably by fellow senior Deone McKeithan. Chris Satterfield, a sophomore, is at left cornerback. Junior Kevin Monroe is ECU's best reserve cornerback.

**17** The number of Pirate signees (out of 19) who hail from cities with populations no larger than 200,000.

Andrew Bayes is C-USA's most versatile kicking specialist. A junior, Bayes last year punted for a 43.4-yard average and nailed 6-of-9 field goals, with a long of 47. In addition, Bayes can run and pass from the punting formation. He'll challenge Tulane's Brad Hill for first-team All-C-USA honors as punter.

Like last season, Bayes will share some kicking chores with junior Brantley Rivers. Junior David Burnell and Harris comprise an above-average kick return tandem, with Harris one of the league's top punt returners (10.9 yard average).



Richard Carlini

## Travis Darden

opposing Conference USA coaches feel it will, three key areas of play must be addressed: quarterback, running back and offensive line. Quality players at these positions should make Logan's task realistic.

"Southern Miss and East Carolina will be the two most talented teams in this conference," Tulane boss Tommy Bowden says.

East Carolina's season may rest on stability at quarterback.

Sophomore Bobby Weaver should be the first-team signal-caller, but Logan will be flexible, noting, "We'll play two, maybe three, quarterbacks."

Senior Ernest Tinnin and redshirt freshman David Garrard will push Weaver, with Garrard, a big, rawboned talent, a probable future star for the Pirates. Tinnin is more likely to play early in the season, to further groom Weaver.

Weaver saw action in three games last year and did exhibit some potential. Though not very rangy, quick or fast, he is solid in all areas and has impressed the ECU staff with his work ethic.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

SE 26 **Troy Smith** (Sr., 30); 5 Arnie Powell (Fr., 0)  
 LT 66 Dwayne Ledford (Sr., 3); 75 Samein Jones (So., 0)  
 LG 78 **Mondell Corbett** (Jr., 2); 63 Ryan Whaley (So., 1)  
 C 54 **Danny Moore** (Sr., 2); 64 Chris Nelson (So., 1)  
 RG 74 Sherwin Laceywell (So., 1); 62 Robert Parker (So., 1)  
 RT 76 **Anthony Nobles** (So., 1); 59 Derrick Gamble (Jr., 0)  
 TE 81 **Buck Collins** (Sr., 3); 89 Rashan Burns (So., 1)  
 FL 87 LaMont Chappell (Jr., 2); 86 J.J. McQueen (Sr., 2)  
 QB 7 Bobby Weaver (So., 1); 15 Ernest Tinnin (Sr., 3);  
 RB 23 Jamie Wilson (So., 1); 22 Leonard Henry (Fr., 0)  
 HB 4 Marcellus Harris (So., 1); 28 Travis Mazzyck (Fr., 0)  
 K 25 Brantley Rivers (Jr., 2); 17 Andrew Bayes (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (6)

DT 79 **Norris McCleary** (Sr., 2); 91 Devone Claybrooks (So., 1)  
 NG 95 **Travis Darden** (Sr., 3); 52 Mbayo Ahmadu (So., 1)  
 DT 6 Brian Johnson (Sr., 3); 98 Maurice Donley (Fr., 0)  
 OLB 57 **Roderick Coleman** (Sr., 3); 58 Freddie Claybrooks (Jr., 2)  
 ILB 84 **Jeff Kerr** (Jr., 2); 33 Clenton Cochran (So., 1)  
 ILB 1 Brian Ray (So., 1); 50 Kwabena Green (Jr., 1)  
 OLB 96 Marc Yellock (So., 1); 14 Brian Bentley (Sr., 3)  
 CB 37 Forrest Foster (Jr., 2); 21 Kevin Monroe (Jr., 2)  
 CB 31 Chris Satterfield (So., 1); 2 Charlie Robinson (Fr., 0)  
 SS 40 **Kendrick Phillips** (Sr., 3); 3 Deone McKeithan (Sr., 0)  
 FS 8 **Kelvin Suggs** (Sr., 3); 13 Kevin Ward (Fr., 0)  
 P 17 **Andrew Bayes** (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Steve Logan

Home Field: Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium (43,000)

1997 Record (C-USA): 5-6 (4-2)

1998 Prediction: 2nd C-USA



**A**mid a pep rally atmosphere, Coach Houston Nutt has returned to his home state for his dream job. The only thing better than the way the fans embraced Nutt was his timing. He jumped from a one-year stopover at Boise State to find the pieces in place to win right away at Arkansas.

A senior class of 17, with 10 returning

The receiver position was and still is the offense's deepest spot, but the cast was under-used last season because Arkansas relied so much on all-time leading receiver Anthony Eubanks. His graduation could be a blessing in disguise, forcing passes to be spread among talented juniors Anthony Lucas, Michael Snowden, Emanuel Smith, Michael Williams and Hubert Loudermilk.

Of the group, Smith presents the toughest match up for defensive backs because of his size (6-1, 223) and speed (consistent 4.4). Even more under-used but potentially as effective are junior tight ends Al Heringer and Joe Dean Davenport.

The offensive line is a tale of two groups. The senior trio of guards Brandon Burlsworth, Russ Brown and center Grant Garrett have started the last two seasons together and have proved themselves as solid run and pass blockers. But coaches need to find two tackles who can keep the SEC's lightning-quick outside linebackers from abusing Stoenner like they did last year. Junior Bobby Williams and senior Chad Abernathy started last year, but don't be stunned if sophomores Rick Johnson and Marcus Clavelle make an impact.

Melvin Bradley, a senior, has been one of the smallest SEC defensive linemen the last two seasons, but he's led the team in tackles both seasons. Senior Ryan Hale and junior D.J. Cooper are strong pass rushers and have helped Arkansas put up good run-stopping lines the last two years. Redshirt freshman Sacha Lancaster is slightly undersized but makes up for it with a maniacal intensity.

Outside linebackers C.J. McLain and Randy Garner, Quenton Caver and Bryan Smith are fast off the corners, and they took turns making big plays last year. McLain, a senior, only played in seven games because of a suspension he shared with Smith, but he still led or ranked near the top of Arkansas' big-play categories such as sacks, hurries and forced fumbles. And potentially the best of the bunch, redshirt freshman Carlos Hall, is moving to inside linebacker so coaches can get him on the field. That makes the inside crowded with starters Jamel Harris and J.J. Jones, both juniors, returning along with part-time starter Harry Wilson, a senior.

**112** Arkansas' rank in rushing among the 112 Division I-A teams last season. The Razorbacks averaged 56.5 yards rushing per game.



Dwight King

## Clint Stoenner

starters on offense and nine on defense should help wrench Arkansas from the grip of its worst decade since the 1940s. The most favorable schedule since joining the SEC will help too, although contending for the SEC West title is a stretch.

For the first time since 1995, coaches aren't biting their fingernails over the quarterback position because they finally have a returning starter in unflappable junior Clint Stoenner. Stoenner set the school season passing record (2,347 yards) last year, as his strengths overcame the occasional mistakes of a first-year starter.

The biggest question on offense for the last two years has been whether tailback Madre Hill would play again like the old Madre Hill. After two reconstructive knee surgeries, the question will be answered this season. Nutt believes Hill, a junior, can reclaim the speed burst and instant cutting that allowed him to set the Arkansas season rushing record (1,387 yards) in 1995. Eric Branch, a tailback last year, could find more playing time at fullback this season.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

WR 80 Anthony Lucas (Jr., 2); 27 Michael Snowden (Jr., 2)  
 LT 72 Chad Abernathy (Sr., 3); 62 Rick Johnson (So., 1)  
 LG 60 Russ Brown (Sr., 3); 67 Michael Henry (Sr., 3)  
 C 54 Grant Garrett (Sr., 3); 68 Jeremiah Washburn (Jr., 1)  
 RG 77 Brandon Burlsworth (Sr., 3); 67 Michael Henry (Sr., 3)  
 RT 69 Bobby Williams (Jr., 2); 79 Marcus Clavelle (So., 1)  
 TE 85 Joe Dean Davenport (Jr., 2); 89 Al Heringer (Jr., 2)  
 WR 81 Emanuel Smith (Jr., 2); 84 Michael Williams (Jr., 2)  
 QB 14 Clint Stoenner (Jr., 2); 6 Chadd Jones (So., 1)  
 FB 47 Nathan Norman (Jr., 2); 7 Eric Branch (So., 1)  
 RB 34 Madre Hill (Sr., 2); 22 Chryst Chukwuma (So., 2)  
 K 10 Todd Latourette (Sr., 3); 17 Tony Dodson (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

DT 65 Sacha Lancaster (Fr., 0); 42 Bryan Smith (So., 0)  
 NG 41 Melvin Bradley (Sr., 2); 99 D.J. Cooper (Jr., 2)  
 DT 96 Ryan Hale (Sr., 3); 1 Randy Garner (So., 1)  
 LB 42 Bryan Smith (So., 0); 43 C.J. McLain (Sr., 2)  
 LB 1 Randy Garner (So., 1); 40 Norman Nero (Sr., 3)  
 LB 45 Jamel Harris (Jr., 2); 46 Delancey Kent (Jr., 2)  
 LB 49 J.J. Jones (Jr., 2); 44 Harry Wilson (Sr., 1)  
 LB 53 Quenton Caver (So., 1); 56 Marvin Caston (Jr., 1)  
 CB 37 Zac Painter (Sr., 3); 28 Ontraia Moss (Jr., 2)  
 CB 18 David Barrett (Jr., 2); 25 Chris Chalmers (Jr., 2)  
 FS 29 Kency Kennedy (Jr., 2); 30 Jeromy Flowers (Jr., 2)  
 P 16 Grant Sumner (Fr., 0); 10 Todd Latourette (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Houston Nutt  
 Home Field: Razorback Stadium (51,000)

1997 Record (SEC): 4-7 (2-6)  
 1998 Prediction: 3rd SEC West



**L**ouisiana Tech entered the 1997 campaign on the heels of a 6-5 1996 needing to replace its all-time passing leader, Jason Martin. Quarterback was a question mark, but that question was answered with an exclamation point. Coach Gary Crowton gave the ball to junior college transfer Tim Rattay, who proceeded to lead the nation in total offense while leading

highest total by a sophomore in NCAA history. After one year, he owns five school passing records.

Redshirt freshman Wesley Pate must be a fine backup since last year's number two signal-caller, David Newman, is now a tight end.

Any notion that the Louisiana Tech offense is one-dimensional should be put to rest by the return of tailback Bobby Ray Tell, a 5-6 jitterbug who ran for 800 yards and seven touchdowns in '97 while averaging a remarkable 6.8 yards per carry. He also caught 27 passes for three more scores. Senior Terence Wilson returns in his blocking role at fullback.

Edwards, a senior who possesses breakaway speed and a knack for getting open deep, failed to reach the 100-yard receiving mark in just one game all last season. He caught 102 passes (second nationally) for 1,707 yards (first) and 13 touchdowns and rushed for a 12.7-yard average on 15 carries. Defenders must keep number 16 in plain sight on every play.

Senior Cedric Williams and sophomore Sean Cangelosi combined for 63 catches and 736 yards a year ago and will split time at the other wide receiver spot. Tight end Josh Bradley will be tough to replace, but 6-8, 255-pound senior Marlon Chambers will give it his best shot.

Now the bad news. Four starters are gone from the offensive line. Tackle Joey Chustz, a 6-6, 310-pound junior, is the lone returnee. Junior college transfer Robert Skapura and sophomore Max Landry are battling for the other tackle assignment, with senior Josh Yankowsky and junior Rob

Koontz at the guards and junior David St. Marie at center. Depth is in the hands of sophomores and redshirt freshmen.

The defensive front wall is a team strength. Senior nose guard Otis Pitts and junior tackle Jerome King are stalwart run-stuffers responsible for a combined 11 tackles for losses last year. King contributed seven sacks to the cause. Juniors Jarrett Procell, a returning starter, and Desmond Nunnery will go at the ends.

The top two tacklers on last year's squad, linebackers Myron Smith and Gomeya Cooper, must be replaced, but senior Selu Alofipo led the Bulldogs with nine tackles for loss in '97. He and senior Adrian Fredericks are undersized but quick and opportunistic on the strong side. Battle-hardened junior Damon Harrington steps up in the middle with sophomore Quincy Stewart at the other outside spot.

**496** Louisiana Tech's total offensive production in yards per game (135.5 rushing; 360.5 passing) last season, ranking third nationally.



Tom Morris/LA Tech

## Tim Rattay

the Bulldogs to a 9-2 record. His performance in a 26-20 win over Alabama in Tuscaloosa seized the nation's attention.

But Rattay is not the only all-star on this team. Wide receiver Troy Edwards finished last season No. 1 nationally in both receiving yardage and all-purpose yards. In all, six offensive and seven defensive starters are back for '98. To open the season, Central Florida and its own quarterback phenom, Daunte Culpepper, visit Ruston on Sept. 5 for what shapes up as an aerial extravaganza.

Louisiana Tech quarterbacks have quite a standard to live up to. For starters, there are Terry Bradshaw, four-time NFL champion, and Rattay's immediate predecessor Martin. Bradshaw posted seven 300-yard passing games in his Louisiana Tech career, Martin eight. Rattay had nine in just his first year. In addition to his nation-leading total offense output of 359.8 yards per game, he finished second nationally in both passing yards (3,881) and completions (293) and third in touchdown passes with 34, which happens to be the second-

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

WR **16** Troy Edwards (Sr., 2); 88 Devon Long (Sr., 1)  
 LT 77 Robert Skapura (Jr., 0); 52 Max Landry (So., 1)  
 LG 68 Josh Yankowsky (Sr., 1); 79 Randy Richard (Fr., 0)  
 C 63 David St. Marie (Jr., 0); Selby Brown (Jr., 0)  
 RG 65 Rob Koontz (Jr., 2); Joey Morgan (So., 0)  
 RT **66** Joey Chustz (Jr., 2); 73 Logan Hulet (Fr., 0)  
 TE 84 Marlon Chambers (Sr., 1); 87 Trey McIntosh (Jr., 1)  
 QB **13** Tim Rattay (Jr., 1); 10 Wes Pate (Fr., 0)  
 FB 20 Terence Wilson (Sr., 3); 32 Terry Pratt (Sr., 1)  
 TB **22** Bobby Ray Tell (Jr., 2); 8 John Simon (Fr., 0)  
 WR **15** Cedric Williams (Sr., 3); 81 Sean Cangelosi (So., 1)  
 K Andrew Taylor (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

LE 59 Desmond Nunnery (Jr., 2); 5 Rodney Lloyd (Sr., 3)  
 NG **94** Otis Pitts (Sr., 2); 96 Chris Willis (Jr., 2)  
 DT **99** Jerome King (Jr., 1); 98 Micah Clark (So., 1)  
 RE **93** Jarrett Procell (Jr., 2); 90 Rod Johnson (So., 0)  
 OLB 25 Selu Alofipo (Sr., 1); **42** Adrian Fredericks (Sr., 3)  
 MLB 51 Damon Harrington (Jr., 2); 33 Suaease Ta'ase (Sr., 1)  
 OLB 53 Quincy Stewart (So., 1); 67 Nathan Darby (Jr., 1)  
 CB **30** Roderick Pemetter (So., 1); 27 Frederick Lewis (Jr., 1)  
 CB **26** Mark Thomas (Sr., 1); 19 Marlon Ford (Sr., 3)  
 SS **6** Charles Bowman (Sr., 1); 1 Derrick Parker (Sr., 3)  
 FS 29 Dewey Simpson (Jr., 1); 23 Clint Davis (Jr., 1)  
 P 18 David Newman (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Gary Crowton

1997 Record (Independent): 9-2

Home Field: Joe Allet Stadium (30,600)



In an attempt to get this once-proud program back on track after back-to-back losing seasons — the first since 1923-24 — head coach John Blake has changed his staff, his offense and his defense.

Ironically, the theme was continuity last season, when optimism was quickly buried beneath a drift of penalties and mistakes.

"I'm waiting for the sleeping giant to

awaken," says Colorado coach Rick Neuheisel. Sooner fans should expect to wait a little longer. The giant is still asleep.

Blake has committed to the option with offensive coordinator Joe Dickinson. Running it will be junior Brandon Daniels, who was a defensive back until the eighth game of last season, when he took over at quarterback. He has straightaway speed, but there are questions about his elusiveness and his ability as a passer, which could provide talented redshirt freshman Jarrod Reese with an opportunity to play.

The Sooners posed no passing threat last season, ranking 102nd nationally with 15 interceptions and three touchdown passes.

The best thing that has happened to Oklahoma recently was junior De'Mond Parker's decision not to leave early for the NFL. He was the Sooners' rushing offense last season, gaining 1,143 yards in only nine games before being sidelined by a pulled abdominal muscle. About the only question regarding Parker is his durability.

Dickinson plans to use two running backs in addition to Parker, one of whom probably will be senior Jermaine Fazande, a wide-body fullback type.

At receiver, Jarraill Jackson is a returning starter with 4.4 speed who caught only seven passes but is the most productive of the returning wideouts. Seniors Chris Blocker and Gerald Williams and sophomore Ahmed Kabba caught only 12 passes between them, and none of them played in more than four games.

Senior Jason Freeman is ready to step up at tight end, assuming he's healthy. He's big enough to block and fast enough to get downfield.

Senior Tim Macias and sophomore Scott Kempenich are the returning starters on the offensive line. Other candidates include sophomores Adam Carpenter, C.B. Baker, Jason Bronson, Stephen Burcham and Andre Pittman, and junior college transfers Matt O'Neal and Stockar McDougle.

The Sooners have a new defensive philosophy and a new defensive coordinator, Rex Ryan. The new defense can be successful if it develops what Ryan calls a "Kelly Gregg attitude." Gregg, a senior tackle, led the team in tackles last season with 98, including 70 unassisted, 10 for losses, and five sacks. What Gregg, a second-team All-Big 12 selection, lacks in height — he's 6-0 — he makes up for with pursuit.

Junior Jeremy Wilson is the projected starter alongside Gregg.

Sophomores Corey Callens, Darryl Bright and junior Cornelius Burton accounted for all the starts at end last season. Bright was the most effective, with 4½ sacks.

At linebacker, sophomore Brandon Moore was moved from the strongside to the middle and will make the defensive calls. He's more of an "open-field" player than junior Sedric Jones, so the two traded positions.

Senior Dale Allen, who missed spring practice while recovering from knee surgery, made 46 tackles in only eight games. He's being counted on to handle the weakside.

Senior Dale Allen, who missed spring practice while recovering from knee surgery, made 46 tackles in only eight games. He's being counted on to handle the weakside.

The Sooners were penalized 110 times, a conference record, for a total of 843 yards. By comparison, their opponents were assessed 63 penalties for 495 yards.

Oklahoma is set in the secondary, with four returning starters, three of them seniors. Gana Joseph, the best of the bunch, has traded places with Terry White, taking over as the strong safety. Joseph hits like a linebacker and is solid in run support. He had 87 tackles and two interceptions last year. White, now the free safety, made 73 tackles.

Corey Ivy and junior Mike Woods are the cornerbacks.

The Sooners need to take advantage of their experience after ranking 61st nationally in pass efficiency defense in 1997. They intercepted only six passes.

Redshirt freshman Jeff Ferguson is the heir apparent to Jeremy Alexander as kicker. The punting job remains open. Senior Brian Shackelford, a baseball player, has a season of football eligibility remaining and could return; odds are, he will move on to professional baseball, leaving the punting job to Ferguson.

Jackson ranked sixth in the Big 12 in punt returns and seventh in kickoff returns.



Peter Brouillett

## De'Mond Parker

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

WR 1 Jarraill Jackson (Jr., 2); 5 Ahmed Kabba (So., 1)  
 LT 72 Scott Kempenich (So., 1); 76 Al Baysinger (So., 0)  
 LG 68 Adam Carpenter (So., 1); 74 C.B. Baker (So., 1)  
 C 60 Matt O'Neal (Jr., 0); 59 Stephen Burcham (So., 1)  
 RG 77 Tim Macias (Sr., 2); 63 Jason Bronson (So., 1)  
 RT 78 Stockar McDougle (Jr., 0); 70 Andre Pittman (So., 0)  
 TE 86 Jason Freeman (Sr., 3); 90 Matt Anderson (Jr., 2)  
 QB 8 Brandon Daniels (Jr., 2); 6 Jarrod Reese (Fr., 0)  
 FB 30 Jermaine Fazande (Sr., 3); 35 Seth Littrell (So., 1)  
 TB 33 De'Mond Parker (Jr., 2); 25 Stanley Peters (Fr., 0)  
 FL 24 Chris Blocker (Sr., 3); 10 Gerald Williams (Sr., 3)  
 K 83 Jeff Ferguson (Fr., 0); 16 Steve Daniels (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (8)

DE 95 Darryl Bright (So., 1); 85 Trevor Nutt (Fr., 0)  
 DT 97 Kelly Gregg (Sr., 3); 73 Steve Williams (Jr., 2)  
 DT 91 Jeremy Wilson (Jr., 0); 94 Ryan Fisher (So., 1)  
 DE 92 Corey Callens (So., 1); 87 Cornelius Burton (Jr., 2)  
 LB 84 Dale Allen (Sr., 3); 27 Johnnie Balous (Jr., 0)  
 LB 46 Brandon Moore (So., 1); 48 Sedric Jones (Jr., 2)  
 LB 47 Armand Spence (So., 1); 40 Tony Peters (Fr., 0)  
 CB 2 Mike Woods (Jr., 2); 4 Pee Wee Woods (Jr., 2)  
 CB 9 Corey T. Ivy (Sr., 1); 7 Cedric Stephens (Sr., 3)  
 SS 29 Gana Joseph (Sr., 2); 18 Jacinth Joseph (Sr., 0)  
 FS 13 Terry White (Sr., 3); 45 Rodney Rideau (Jr., 2)  
 P 83 Jeff Ferguson (Fr., 0); 15 J.T. Thatcher (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters BOLD indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: John Blake

Home Field: Memorial Stadium (75,000)

1997 Record (Big 12): 4-8 (2-6)

1998 Prediction: 4th Big 12 South



**A**labama traditionalists might have a problem pronouncing the words "Air Bama" out loud, but whether they like it or not, that's where Crimson Tide football is headed in 1998.

Second-year coach Bear Bryant disciple Mike DuBose, shocked by a 4-7 rookie record, has vowed that the pass will set up the run instead of the other way

Experience is an asset in the receiver positions. Flanker Michael Vaughn, a 1996 starter, returns after losing all of the 1997 season and '98 spring practice to back and elbow surgery.

Calvin Hall, who started in his place and took in 19 passes for 301 yards and three scores, gives the position a pair of talented and experienced players.

At split end, Quincy Jackson is the leading receiver with 29 catches for 472 yards and three touchdowns. Junior Shamari Buchanan is a 6-2 possession receiver and a solid backup for Alabama.

At tight end, sophomore Shawn Draper should move into departed Rod Rutledge's starting spot.

Only junior Chris Samuels, who starts his 19th consecutive game at tackle in the opener, and sophomore center Paul Hogan, a freshman All-American who started 10-of-11 last season, are returning first-teamers along the offensive line.

Sophomore Will Cuthbert provides depth at tackle. This allows junior Jason McDonald and sophomore Griff Redmill to move from tackle to guard.

There's not much experience along the front four of the defensive line. Chris Hood, a senior, developed nicely at rush end last season until injuries took him out after eight games. He's healthy now. Juniors Clint Waggoner and Reggie Grimes bring starting time at end.

Kenny Smith, moves from end to join junior Jamie Carter at tackle. Smith's quickness helped him log seven tackles behind the line of scrimmage.

Perhaps the strongest position on the team with three returning starters and quality depth is the linebacking corps.

Seniors Steve Stanley on the strong side and Travis Smith on the weak side flank sophomore Travis Carroll in the middle.

Two seniors, Fernando Bryant at cornerback and Kelvin Sigler at free safety, cover half of the secondary with savvy and speed. Bryant is the team's fastest player and a good cover man whose three 1997 interceptions included a 66-yard touchdown. He can change the complexion of a game.

Senior Antoine Hunter takes over at the other corner.

Senior Michael Feagin and sophomore Kecal Bailey are both experienced and give depth to the position. Sophomores Tony Dixon and Marcus Spencer both had starts at strong safety as freshmen and will likely share the position.

**48** The nation-leading number of bowl appearances by the Crimson Tide. Last season was only the third in the last 37 years Bama failed to go to a bowl. Starting a new streak in '98 is a major goal.



Dwight King

## Fernando Bryant

around. DuBose hired Brigham Young-trained Charlie Stubbs away from Nevada-Las Vegas to put the plan in place.

Stubbs will have to work with an inexperienced group of signal callers.

Fifth-year senior John David Phillips is the only Tide quarterback who has thrown a pass in a college game. He was 1-of-3 last year, but that one was for a touchdown against Tennessee. Redshirt freshman Andrew Zow shared spring reps with Phillips, but neither was outstanding.

Running back could be a strength for Alabama. Three talented runners had to share one football last season, and none of the three got going, as the Tide ground game was surprisingly anemic.

Now Dennis Riddle and Curtis Alexander are gone, the ball belongs to Shaun Alexander. Injuries and a visit to the DuBose doghouse held him to 415 yards after 589 as a redshirt freshman.

Dustin McClintock started three games at fullback. His job is protecting the running backs and the quarterback.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (3)

SE	7 Quincy Jackson (Sr., 1); 84 Shamari Buchanan (Jr., 2)
LT	60 Chris Samuels (Jr., 2); 78 Michael Barfield (Fr., 0)
LG	70 Jason McDonald (Jr., 2); 61 Todd Whitmore (Jr., 0)
C	74 Paul Hogan (So., 1); 55 Brooks Brodie (Sr., 1)
RG	75 Griff Redmill (So., 1); 69 Michael Moore (Jr., 2)
RT	72 Will Cuthbert (So., 1); 63 Sage Spree (Sr., 2)
TE	38 Shawn Draper (So., 1); 85 Rhett Crutchfield (Sr., 1)
FB	83 Calvin Hall (Sr., 3); 22 Michael Vaughn (Jr., 2)
QB	12 John David Phillips (Sr., 2); 5 Andrew Zow (Fr., 0)
RB	30 Dustin McClintock (So., 1); 21 Montoya Madden (Sr., 3)
RB	37 Shaun Alexander (Jr., 2); 26 Arvin Richard (So., 1)
K	19 Brian Cunningham (Sr., 2); 15 A.J. Diaz (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

DE	34 Chris Hood (Sr., 3); 92 Shaun Williams (Fr., 0)
DT	88 Kenny Smith (So., 1); 95 Sam Matthews (Fr., 0)
DT	90 Jamie Carter (Jr., 2); 51 Carlos Stennis (So., 0)
DE	91 Clint Waggoner (Jr., 2); 98 Reggie Grimes (Jr., 2)
LB	4 Steve Stanley (Sr., 3); 11 Chris Horne (So., 1)
LB	44 Travis Carroll (So., 1); 59 Chris Edwards (Sr., 3)
LB	48 Travis Smith (Sr., 3); 43 Steve Harris (Sr., 0)
CB	25 Fernando Bryant (Sr., 3); 3 Michael Feagin (Sr., 3)
CB	39 Antoine Hunter (Sr., 1); 13 Kecal Bailey (So., 1)
SS	24 Tony Dixon (So., 1); 41 Marcus Spencer (So., 1)
FS	20 Kelvin Sigler (Sr., 3); 17 Warren Foust (Sr., 3)
P	40 Daniel Pope (Sr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mike DuBose  
Home Field: Bryant-Denny Stadium (83,266)

1997 Record (SEC): 4-7 (2-6)  
1998 Prediction: 4th SEC West



**B**ack in August 1997, if you had predicted that Tulane and then-first-year coach Tommy Bowden would finish the season with a 7-4 overall mark and a 5-1 record in Conference USA, college football fans would have chuckled.

Roughly a year later, the Tulane football program, which had last posted a seven-win season in 1980, is no longer a laughing-

If Dartez falters, the quick Converse will receive the bulk of the minutes. Also a fine receiver, Converse could become the school's greatest running back ever. Bowden wants junior O'Kie Woods to emerge as a big-time fullback. Prediction: Woods will.

Four ends who recorded 20 or more receptions return for the Green Wave, led by senior P.J. Franklin and junior JaJuan Dawson. Dawson is back after missing the last three games with a broken right ankle. He likely would have led the conference in total receiving yards had he not been hurt. Sophomores Kerwin Cook and John Wilson complete the quartet. Toss in sophomore Adrian Burnette and Converse, and King has numerous targets. Junior tight end Mike Turner is a quality drive blocker with solid pass-catching skills.

With four starters back, the Tulane offensive front should be as tough as last season's, which allowed a mere 11 sacks. The leader is senior right guard Mike Gumiela. Juniors Kapua Conley and Jerry Godfrey will toil at center and left guard respectively, joined by sophomores Bernard Robertson, left tackle, and at right, Charles Caldwell. The somewhat smallish line prompts Bowden to say, "Our linemen need to work on their strength and (take advantage of their) technique."

Three defensive line starters are gone, but Bowden incorporated a 12-lineman rotation last fall, thus softening the impact of the losses. Dennis O'Sullivan, a senior, is the returning starter at right tackle, and he's a good one. The left tackle should be Phil

Henderson, with Manny Cuellar and Kevin Reavis handling the left and right end spots respectively. All three are seniors.

"To some degree, we've lost our first line of defense," Bowden says. "We want to get pressure with the front four rush, but if not, we'll have to start blitzing."

Senior linebacker Brett Timmons, who works the weak side, is the leading returning tackler (84 stops). With 15 tackles for losses (a team high) last fall, he may key the blitz.

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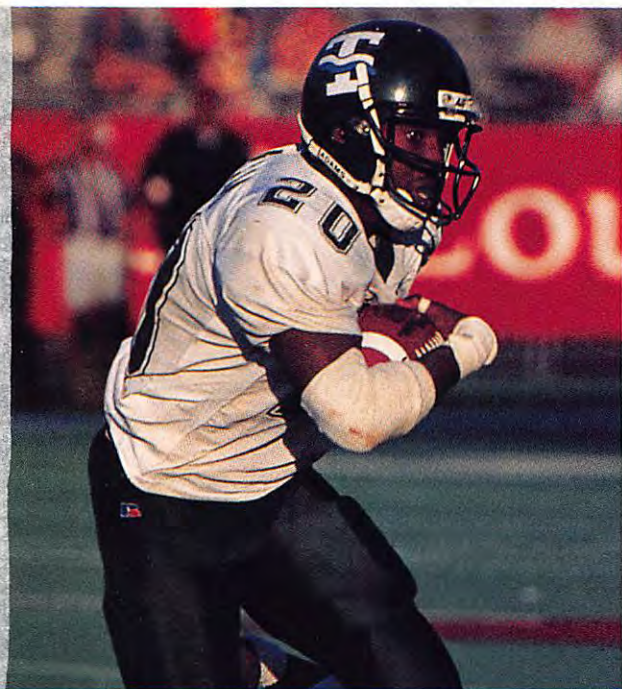
Tulane's 1997 rushing and passing yardage totals showing its remarkably balanced offense.

On the strong side, Derrick Perry was Tulane's best reserve defender and will now start. Senior middleman Wayne Blair is expected to start, although he will be pushed by sophomore Noel Ellis, who has been moved from safety.

Tulane led the nation in interceptions last season with 26, and returning secondary players notched 16 of them. That group is led by cornerback Michael Jordan and free safety Alphonso Roundtree, one of the best secondary pairs in C-USA.

Senior Tellius Carr moves from the corner to strong safety, with sophomore Allen Phillips at the corner opposite Jordan.

Few schools, if any, boast a better kicking duo than punter Brad Hill and kicker Brad Palazzo. The former averaged 46.2 yards per punt (4th nationally), while the latter led the country in field goals made (23) and broke numerous school and conference records. Franklin efficiently handles the bulk of both kick and punt returns, and O'Sullivan is a fine long-snapper.



Brian Timpak

## JaJuan Dawson

stock. With this season's manageable schedule, the Green Wave could conceivably fashion an 8-3 record and bowl invitation.

"We're ahead of schedule in terms of winning, but we're still behind the rest of the conference talent-wise," Bowden says. Still, he welcomes back 16 starters and one of America's top kicker/punter tandems.

A third straight win against Cincinnati could have Tulane headed for a Top 25 year. At worst, Bowden's boys should again win seven games while featuring an explosive offense and fabulous kicking game.

Shaun King is C-USA's returning Offensive Player of the Year. Now a senior, the slithery King led the league with 279.8 yards of total offense per game and shocked everybody with his dramatically improved passing accuracy and increased production.

Senior Jamaican Dartez and sophomore Toney Converse are a splendid tailback tandem, perhaps the best in C-USA. Playing only six games because of injuries to his left forearm, Dartez returns hoping to realize the great potential he flashed as a freshman.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (10)

WR 20 JaJuan Dawson (Jr., 2); 84 Kerwin Cook (So., 1)  
 LT 74 Bernard Robertson (So., 1); 51 B. McFarland (So., 0)  
 LG 77 Jerry Godfrey (Jr., 2); 53 Bryson Westbrook (So., 1)  
 C 55 Kapua Conley (Jr., 2); 57 Tony Cunningham (So., 1)  
 RG 70 Mike Gumiela (Sr., 2); 79 Kahari Wood (Fr., 0)  
 RT 71 Charles Caldwell (So., 1); 68 Jim Ordeneaux (Jr., 1)  
 TE 46 Mike Turner (Jr., 2); 80 Mike Truax (So., 1)  
 WR 8 P.J. Franklin (Sr., 3); 1 John Wilson (So., 1)  
 QB 10 Shaun King (Sr., 3); 14 Jeff Curtis (Sr., 3)  
 FB 40 O'Kie Woods (Jr., 2); 21 Barry Smith (Fr., 0)  
 RB 19 Jamaican Dartez (Sr., 3); 23 Toney Converse (So., 1)  
 K 3 Brad Palazzo (Sr., 3)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 54 Manny Cuellar (Sr., 3); 96 Brent Hamilton (So., 1)  
 DT 87 Phil Henderson (Sr., 3); 98 Domonick Crockett (So., 1)  
 DT 65 Dennis O'Sullivan (Sr., 3); 97 Mitch Mouton (So., 1)  
 DE 90 Kevin Reavis (Sr., 3); 73 Tom Latos (Sr., 2)  
 LB 41 Derrick Perry (Jr., 2); 52 Jon-Robert Mouton (Fr., 0)  
 LB 45 Wayne Blair (Sr., 3); 28 Noel Ellis (So., 1)  
 LB 9 Brett Timmons (Sr., 3); 30 Jerry Phillips (So., 1)  
 CB 6 Michael Jordan (Sr., 3); 31 Ky Joseph (So., 1)  
 CB 29 Allen Phillips (So., 1); 15 Tim Carter (So., 1)  
 SS 4 Tellius Carr (Sr., 3); 42 Corey Jones (So., 1)  
 FS 5 Alphonso Roundtree (Sr., 3); 24 Sam Knight (So., 1)  
 P 48 Brad Hill (Sr., 3); 36 Casey Rousell (Fr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Tommy Bowden  
 Home Field: Louisiana Superdome (69,767)

1997 Record (C-USA): 7-4 (5-1)  
 1998 Prediction: 3rd Conference USA



The back-and-forth nature of coach Dana Dimel's first season was reflected in statistics that showed Wyoming on top of the Western Athletic Conference in both turnovers and takeaways. The Cowboy's longest winning streak (three games) came near the beginning of the season, but inconsistency killed them and they closed with two losses, costing them a bowl bid.



**Robbie Duncan**

In 1998, the Cowboys will keep working for the big numbers in sacks and takeaways while hoping to better protect the ball and rebuild the offensive line.

Quarterback Jay Stoner epitomized a freshman quarterback: brilliant at times, erratic at other times. He completed just under 50 percent of his passes, including a 69-yarder, while tallying 1,890 yards and eight touchdowns. Unfortunately, he threw 10 interceptions. Stoner should be more comfortable in his second year in the Cowboy system.

All-purpose running back Mike Jenkins transferred to Arkansas for his final year of eligibility rather than divide playing time in the Cowboy backfield. That leaves Marques Brigham, who averaged almost 70 yards a game. Tim Beasley will have a chance to play after overcoming knee and ankle injuries, and converted defensive back Jon Jennings can also help.

Wyoming uses a fullback only occasionally. Jared Jarnagin will start at that position, where he played for most of last year.

Wide receiver Wendell Montgomery's sophomore reception numbers — 58 for 905 yards — look good, except that he dropped "maybe a dozen balls" by offensive coordinator Todd Whitten's count. The coaches expect more consistent play from him and other receivers. Brahm's Derenoncourt will be pushing for time along with Kofi Shuck and Marcus Brunson, a track sprinter. The Cowboys are loaded at tight end, with seniors Kirby Drupe and Julian Hooker returning.

With four starters missing, including All-Pacific Division center Jay Korth, the offensive line is a question mark. Yet Whitten is not terribly concerned. Tackles Trifon Demos and Nate Selk each played decently from a few starts. Jeff Smith, solid last year at right guard, will move to center with Scott Allmon as backup. Dan Delcorio and Demetrius Hamilton slide into right and left guard respectively. They all need to get in sync early in the year for the line to hold its own.

Wyoming's defense was the best in school history, ranking No. 17 in the nation in scoring defense (allowing only 17.5 points per game). But all three starters from the defensive line are gone. Physical tackle Brian Van Emmerik will start, with Jason Dreessen and junior college transfer Jon Mathis possibly in the tackle rotation. Defensive coordinator Vic Koenning expects to have more speed and fresh bodies available than he had last year.

Sophomore Jeff Boyle will hold down the nose guard position, while converted linebacker Jay Wojtkiewicz will be at end along with seasoned Pat Hirsch.

Dimel's philosophy is to move players to positions that yield the fastest defensive unit he can develop. This year Brian Brown will switch from outside linebacker to departed Jim Talich's middle position. Brown led the Cowboys with 136 tackles and was their second-leading sack man behind Talich (7½), contributing seven to Wyoming's remarkable total of 54. Brown will be flanked by Josh Amundson and Richard Peprah, back after a shoulder injury kept him sidelined last year. Redshirt freshmen Cortney Barnes and Adrian Hill also should find playing time.

**96** Wyoming's defense recorded 54 sacks and 42 takeaways in 1997. That's 96 highly disruptive plays — an average of more than seven a game — including a school-record 24 interceptions.

J.P. Williams, who saw action in nickel situations last season, could take the cornerback position vacated by Je'Ney Jackson. T.W. Steele will also bid for the spot. At the other corner, junior Robbie Duncan broke up 16 passes and "was good," Koenning says, "but we need him to get better."

At Wyoming's interchangeable safety positions, starter Greg Van Leer returns, and Al Rich gained experience when WAC interception leader Brian Lee was injured. Trent Gamble and junior college transfer Matt Lehning will also find work.

The loss of kicker Cory Wedel will definitely hurt. Chris Stanton hopes to replace him. Punting is not an issue, with Aron Langley having averaged 45.2 yards. Derenoncourt handles kickoff returns, but a new punt returner needs to be found.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

WR 83 Wendell Montgomery (Jr., 2); 81 B. Derenoncourt (Sr., 3)  
LT 72 Nate Selk (Jr., 2); 77 Pat Hutchinson (Fr., 0)  
LG 63 Demetrius Hamilton (Sr., 1); 66 Terry Staggs (Sr., 1)  
C 51 Jeff Smith (Sr., 2); 54 Scott Allmon (Sr., 1)  
RG 67 Dan Delcorio (Jr., 2); 60 Jason Wilhelm (Jr., 1)  
RT 75 Trifon Demos (Jr., 2); 61 Chris Cichosz (Jr., 1)  
TE 86 Kirby Drupe (Sr., 3); 6 Julian Hooker (Sr., 1)  
QB 11 Jay Stoner (So., 1); 15 Matt Swanson (Fr., 0)  
FB 39 Jared Jarnagin (Jr., 2); 32 Darth Tesinsky (Fr., 0)  
RB 34 Marques Brigham (Sr., 2); 7 Tim Beasley (Jr., 2)  
WR 18 Kofi Shuck (Jr., 2); 8 Marcus Brunson (Jr., 2)  
K 36 Chris Stanton (Sr., 0); 18 Aaron Elling (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (5)

LE 37 Jay Wojtkiewicz (Sr., 1); 88 Jerel Haynes (Jr., 1)  
T 93 Brian Van Emmerik (Jr., 2); 97 Jason Dreessen (Jr., 2)  
NG 92 Jeff Boyle (So., 1); 91 Aaron Willett (Fr., 0)  
RE 33 Pat Hirsch (So., 1); 17 Adrian Hill (So., 0)  
OLB 29 Josh Amundson (Sr., 2); 2 Patrick Chukwurah (So., 1)  
MLB 13 Brian Brown (Sr., 2); 55 Antwan Floyd (Fr., 0)  
OLB 40 Richard Peprah (So., 1); 28 Cortney Barnes (So., 1)  
CB 27 J.P. Williams (Sr., 2); 25 T.W. Steele (Jr., 2)  
CB 22 Robbie Duncan (Jr., 2); 5 Glen Johnson (Jr., 1)  
S 21 Greg Van Leer (Sr., 3); 20 Trent Gamble (Jr., 2)  
S 3 Al Rich (So., 1); 1D Matt Lehning (Jr., 0)  
P 41 Aron Langley (Sr., 2); 65 Tom Waring (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters *NUMBER* after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dana Dimel  
Home Field: War Memorial Stadium (33,500)

1997 Record (WAC): 7-6 (4-4)  
1998 Prediction: 2nd WAC Mountain



Since coming out of Division I-AA in 1993 to prop up an Auburn program that had veered off course, Terry Bowden has averaged nine wins a year by leaning heavily on offense, but he has no SEC championship to show for it. Bowden's Tigers got to their first SEC Championship Game last year and lost a heartbreaker to Tennessee.

depth chart behind sophomore Demontray Carter. Carter was un-redshirted at mid-season of his freshman year and almost overtook Williams with 230 yards. If he cures his fumbling problem, he could be the man.

Fullback is no problem. Sophomore Tellie Embery is a solid blocker. The loss of Robert Baker to indefinite suspension due to his legal difficulties runs the receiving corps' speedometer down a notch.

Sophomore Clifton Robinson is likely to step in at Baker's spot, while senior playmaker Karsten Bailey takes the other. Bailey is the leading receiver from a year ago with 53 for 840 yards and seven touchdowns. Reid Tankersley, a red-shirt freshman, and junior college transfer Jack Schwiager, who had 37 receptions last year for Snow Junior College, have the opportunity to boost the offense at tight end.

With four of five offensive linemen back to start again, the running game should improve, if not prosper. All five of Auburn's offensive line starters will play at or near 300 pounds. Junior Jeno James and senior Kendell Mack return at tackles, sophomore T.J. Meers is back at one guard and center T.J. Dunigan puts his huge frame in the middle.

Senior DeMarcus Curry moves in at one guard and sophomore Kendall Simmons swings to either side when the need arises.

The defensive front is one of the team's strongest and most experienced positions. Senior Jimmy Brumbaugh and junior Leonardo Carson flank senior nose tackle Charles Dorsey in the three-man front, just

like last season. Sophomores Jeff Dunlap and Jeremy Banks do not dilute the product significantly at end, and rawboned red-shirt freshman Josh Weldon is a wreck waiting to happen at nose tackle.

The linebacking corps is another strong position. Senior Ryan Taylor and junior Quinton Reese start again as outside backers. The inside pair of junior Haven Fields and sophomore Manning Sumner will have to grow into the job.

Strong safety Martavius Houston, an All-America candidate, was suspended in the spring for breaking team rules.

That is not a huge problem.

Defensive coordinator Bill Oliver's philosophy dispatches corners and safeties in waves, and the secondary is another area filled with young but tested and proven football talent.

**83,545**

The average attendance last year for seven home games, sixth best in college football. Jordan-Hare Stadium seats 85,214.

Sophomore Larry Casher and junior Antwoine Nolan return to start at corner and junior Brad Ware is back at free safety, where he had 57 tackles last season. Ware, who was unheralded as a high school senior, has eight interceptions in his two seasons at Auburn.

Sophomore Rob Pate replaces Houston at strong safety, and the secondary will not miss a beat. A big hitter with size, the 6-3 Pate started eight games as a true freshman.

Senior Jeremy Zills will likely be the punter and senior Kevin Gentle the place-kicker. Baker was a dangerous return man in '96.



Courtland Richards

## Karsten Bailey

If they take the next step this fall, it isn't likely to be on offense. Last season's early Heisman Trophy candidate, quarterback Dameyune Craig, is gone. He had a hand in 77 percent of the Tigers' offense, a school-record 3,277 of it by passing.

So defense, with eight starters returning, is the ticket this season. The defense may be one of the better units in the conference, but it won't be strong enough to carry a struggling offense back to the SEC Championship Game.

Pocket passer Ben Leard moves in for the scrambling Craig. Leard, a sophomore, has the physical essentials — size, arm, intelligence — but no experience. He has attempted only two passes as a college player, and must mature quickly as a leader. The lack of a running game kept the Tigers from presenting the complete package during last year's 10-win season. Junior Rusty Williams was the starter at tailback, but he gained just 277 yards. Juniors Markeith Cooper and Cencade Pennington return as well, but all three may move back on the

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

WR 15 Clifton Robinson (So., 1); 18 Ryan Hooker (So., 1)  
LT 78 Jeno James (Jr., 2); 71 Colin Sears (So., 1)  
LG 75 T.J. Meers (So., 1); 73 Kendall Simmons (So., 1)  
C 77 T.J. Dunigan (Jr., 2); 57 Karl Lavine (Sr., 2)  
RG 69 Demarcus Curry (Sr., 3); 73 Kendall Simmons (So., 1)  
RT 65 Kendell Mack (Sr., 3); 79 Mike Pucillo (Fr., 0)  
TE 89 Reid Tankersley (Fr., 0); 80 Jack Schwiager (Jr., 0)  
WR 5 Karsten Bailey (Sr., 3); 8 Erick Lowe (Sr., 3)  
QB 14 Ben Leard (So., 1); 12 Melko Collier (Fr., 0)  
FB 48 Tellie Embery (So., 1); 44 Heath Evans (Fr., 0)  
RB 3 Rusty Williams (Jr., 2); 1 Demontray Carter (So., 1)  
K 11 Kevin Gentle (Sr., 3)

### DEFENSE (8)

DE 96 Jimmy Brumbaugh (Sr., 3); 76 Jeff Dunlap (So., 1)  
NT 91 Charles Dorsey (Sr., 3); 93 Josh Weldon (Fr., 0)  
DE 95 Leonardo Carson (Jr., 2); 9 Jeremy Banks (So., 1)  
OLB 86 Quinton Reese (Jr., 2); 39 Roderick Chambers (So., 1)  
ILB 54 Haven Fields (Jr., 2); 58 Nathan Gardner (Jr., 1)  
ILB 56 Manning Sumner (So., 1); 42 Whit Smith (Fr., 0)  
OLB 6 Ryan Taylor (Sr., 3); 82 Marcus Washington (Jr., 2)  
CB 24 Larry Casher (So., 1); 4 Jayson Bray (Sr., 3)  
CB 13 Antwoine Nolan (Jr., 2); 10 Rodney Crayton (So., 1)  
SS 31 Rob Pate (So., 1); 30 Courtney Rose (So., 1)  
FS 27 Brad Ware (Jr., 2); 45 Adrian Weeks (Fr., 0)  
P 35 Jeremy Zills (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Terry Bowden  
Home Field: Jordan-Hare (85,214)

1997 Record (SEC): 10-3 (6-2)  
1998 Prediction: 5th SEC West



**A** bowl berth seems inconceivable for Stanford this season. The backfield has been decimated by graduation, all the star defenders are gone, the offensive coordinator is new, and the team must regain its confidence after a terribly disappointing 1997 season. Stanford also may lose its starting quarterback of the past two seasons, Chad Hutchinson, to a pro baseball

back Juan-Carlos Lacey as the most experienced back with only eight carries for 40 yards last season. He showed some flashes of talent two years ago before he was red-shirted, and will probably be a starter. Red-shirt freshman Eddie Gayles figures to get considerable playing time too. Maxwell Stevenson probably will be the starter at fullback. No current Stanford fullback ran the ball last season.

Stanford may have the best wide receiver in the conference in Troy Walters, an efficient pass-catcher who is not flashy but can beat you short or deep. Walters had a Stanford-record 86 receptions last season. But with no complementary threat at the other wide receiver spot, Cardinal wins may depend on how quickly Jeff Allen or DeRonnie Pitts develop.

Tight end has been a key blocking position in Stanford's scheme and there is little experience at the position. Russell Stewart will start, but redshirt freshman Austin Lee could snatch the job away.

Last year the Cardinal yielded 38 sacks and ranked ninth in the Pac-10 in rushing. Yet the offensive line is probably the strength of the team, with four starters returning and considerable experience everywhere.

Mike McLaughlin is solid at center, while Geoff Wilson and Jeff Cronshagen handle the tackle spots. Joe Fairchild, Andrew Kroeker and Brian Donoghue are experienced and are certainly big enough. Stanford spent much of last season moving its offensive linemen around. If they can settle on an offensive formation and stay healthy, Stanford should be decent up front.

The defense will be weakened by the loss of stars Kailee Wong and Carl Hansen, but the talented young returnees show a lot of promise. Willie Howard, at tackle, has the strength and speed to be a significant force. Riall Johnson showed well at defensive end as a redshirt freshman. Andrew Currie probably will be the nose tackle. The other end spot remains unsolved.

**278** The net 1997 rushing yardage of Stanford's returning players. The top four rushers of last season — Anthony Bookman, Mike Mitchell, Greg Comella and Jon Ritchie — are gone.

Outside linebacker Donnie Spragan may be the best player on Stanford's defense, but the Cardinal will be significantly weaker inside without Chris Draft and Jon Haskins. Sharcus Steen and Marc Stockbauer will get shots at handling the inside spots.

Last season the Cardinal secondary had numerous problems, but safety Tim Smith, the playmaker of the defense, is back after missing nearly all of last season with a knee injury. Frank Primus and Chris Johnson saw action at cornerback and it may help this year, although neither is very speedy. Than Merrill probably will be the strong safety, making both Stanford safeties converted quarterbacks.

Kevin Miller seemed unable to make a field goal beyond 37 yards in '97, and will probably have to give way to a new kicker this season. Walters should again be the Pac-10's best punt returner. Stanford was second in the conference in punt returns and first in kickoff returns last year, and that trend should continue.



Peter Brouillet

## Troy Walters

contract. Wide receiver Troy Walters is the team's only proven star.

The only factor in Stanford's favor is that it has done exactly the opposite of what was predicted in each of the past three seasons.

If Hutchinson returns, the Cardinal will have experience and a strong arm at quarterback. His difficulty avoiding a pass rush and throwing under pressure could be a bigger issue this year with a questionable running game.

If Hutchinson leaves, Todd Husak is the probable starter. More nimble than Hutchinson, Husak completed only 47.4 percent of his passes last season. Redshirt freshman Randy Fasani, rated the nation's top high school quarterback two years ago, may get a look too.

New offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach Bill Diedrick is ready to make adjustments. Diedrick replaces Dana Bible, who moves to Philadelphia to be the Eagles' offensive coordinator.

The Cardinal's top four running backs of the past two seasons are gone, leaving a half-

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

WR	89	DeRonnie Pitts (So., 1); 20 Jeff Allen (Sr., 3)
LT	79	Jeff Cronshagen (Jr., 2); 76 Brian Donoghue (Sr., 2)
LG	67	Joe Fairchild (Jr., 1); 62 Jon Abendschein (So., 0)
C	73	Mike McLaughlin (Jr., 2); 60 Zack Quaccia (So., 0)
RG	63	Andrew Kroeker (Sr., 3); 66 Matt Motherway (Jr., 0)
TE	65	Geoff Wilson (Sr., 2); 61 Damien Tinsley (So., 0)
RT	84	Russell Stewart (So., 0); 87 Austin Lee (Fr., 0)
QB	19	Chad Hutchinson (Jr., 2); 7 Todd Husak (Jr., 1)
FB	36	Maxwell Stevenson (Jr., 0); 46 Doug Brown (Sr., 0)
TB	8	Juan-Carlos Lacey (So., 0); 21 Eddie Gayles (Fr., 0)
WR	5	Troy Walters (Jr., 2); 80 Jamien McCullum (So., 0)
K	14	Kevin Miller (Sr., 3); 18 Patrick Shinnefield (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

### DEFENSE (3)

DE	70	Sam Benner (So., 0); 92 Marcus Hoover (So., 0)
NT	99	Andrew Currie (Jr., 2); 78 Travis Pfeifer (So., 0)
DT	77	Willie Howard (So., 1); 71 Doreen Kass (So., 0)
DE	97	Riall Johnson (So., 1); 74 Jim Telesmanich (So., 0)
OLB	2	Donnie Spragan (Sr., 2); 95 Brian Toner (Jr., 2)
ILB	53	Sharcus Steen (Jr., 2); 55 Byron Glaspie (So., 0)
ILB	90	Marc Stockbauer (Jr., 2); 57 Dominic Brunetti (So., 0)
CB	29	Chris Johnson (Jr., 2); 49 Mark Sanders (So., 0)
CB	47	Frank Primus (Jr., 1); 38 Evan Herring (Jr., 0)
SS	6	Than Merrill (So., 1); 27 Tim Bass (Jr., 0)
FS	10	Tim Smith (Jr., 1); 30 Che Holloway (So., 0)
P	14	Kevin Miller (Sr., 3); 96 Scott Reilly (So., 0)

Head Coach: Tyrone Willingham  
Home Field: Stanford Stadium (85,500)

1997 Record (Pac-10): 5-6 (3-5)  
1998 Prediction: 7th Pac-10



**W**hen talk turns to the top line-backer groups in the Mid-American Conference one of the first teams to be mentioned is Miami's. The RedHawks have long been noted for strong line-backers, and this year's starting trio of JoJuan Armour and Dustin Cohen on the outside and Drew Purcell in the middle could be among the best in the school's history.



JoJuan Armour

"It's great to have that group back again," says eight-year Miami coach Randy Walker. "They were extremely productive for us last year, and that will certainly be a position of strength again this season."

All three of the linebackers ranked among the top 13 in the MAC in tackles last season. Armour, a senior, had the best year of the group and was selected the conference's Defensive Player of the Year. He led the MAC in tackles for losses with 24 and was sixth in tackles (111) and sacks (seven for 54 yards).

Cohen led the RedHawks in tackles with 120. The 6-4 junior was eighth in the conference in sacks with six for 40 yards and ranked 10th in tackles for losses with 13. Purcell, a senior, was Miami's third-leading tackler in 1997 with 102.

The RedHawks suffered two severe losses in their secondary with the graduation of cornerbacks Jamie Taylor and Jeff Cheeks, but strong safety Paris Johnson should bolster the position. Johnson, a 6-2 senior, earned All-MAC first-team status in 1997

when he made 94 tackles, recovered two fumbles and forced one. He had a career-best 16 tackles and forced a fumble in Miami's victory over nationally ranked Virginia Tech last year.

Jay Baker will handle the free safety spot. The senior made 60 tackles and deflected seven passes last season. The biggest need on defense for the RedHawks is on the line, where three starters from last season's team departed. The only returnee is senior right end Jason Simmons, who racked up five quarterback sacks in 1997.

Junior tailback Travis Prentice will have to carry a big load on offense. Prentice, one of eight semifinalists for the Doak Walker Award last year, led the MAC in rushing in 1997 with 1,549 yards. His best attribute is carving a path to the end zone. Nicknamed "Touchdown Travis," Prentice broke MAC and Miami records while tying for first in the nation with 25 rushing touchdowns. He needs seven rushing TDs to break the MAC career record. Prentice had eight 100-yard rushing games, including three that topped 200 yards.

The challenge for Miami is to develop a passing game to go with Prentice. Although the Red Hawks were second in the MAC in total offense, they were seventh at the pass, with 235.5 yards per game. Sam Ricketts, Miami's career passing leader, graduated and his replacement will have little or no game experience.

Among the four contenders for the starting position are sophomores John Schacke and Mike Bath, who both saw spot duty in

blowouts last season. Bath completed 9-of-15 passes for 84 yards and Schacke hit 5-of-6 attempts for 41 yards. Redshirt freshmen Bobby Pesavento and Matt Gonso also will vie for the job.

**13** The number of overall conference championships the RedHawks have brought to Oxford, the first in 1948. Miami leads the MAC in titles (13), in conference wins (201) and winning percentage (.678).

Whoever wins the starter's job will have an experienced group of wide receivers at his disposal. Hall, an honorable mention All-MAC player in 1997, caught a school-record 54 passes. His 861 receiving yards were second-best in school history. He also led the RedHawks with six scoring receptions.

Two speedsters will join Hall at the wide-out positions. Sophomore Sly Johnson boasts a team-best 4.35 time in the 40-yard dash and junior Trevor Gaylor has been clocked at 4.38. They combined to catch 49 passes for 724 yards and seven touchdowns last year.

Miami lost four of five offensive line starters, which will make it difficult to maintain the '97 results they had in first downs (fourth-best in the MAC) and third-down conversions (third). The only returnee is junior center Chris Kalafatis.

Miami had the All-MAC first-team punter and placekicker last season and both are back this year. Senior placekicker John Scott broke MAC and Miami records for consecutive PATs with 53 and is the most accurate field-goal kicker in Miami history. Sophomore punter Kent McCullough averaged 42.4 yards, the second-best punting average in school history.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

WR **81 Jay Hall (Sr., 3)**; 48 Ty Buxton (So., 1)  
 LT 76 Brian Luebke (So., 1); 75 Alex Sulfsted (So., 0)  
 LG 67 Ted Stec (Sr., 2); 64 Paul Thaler (Fr., 0)  
 C **53 Chris Kalafatis (Sr., 2)**; 62 Jeremy Lee (Fr., 0)  
 RG 70 John Kickish (Jr., 1); 74 Josh Romberg (Jr., 0)  
 RT 66 Chris Huelsman (Jr., 1); 79 Jon Ryder (Fr., 0)  
 TE 86 Mike Sullivan (So., 1); 94 Brett Bilins (Fr., 0)  
 QB 13 John Schacke (So., 1); 8 Mike Bath (So., 1)  
 FB 37 Nick Monk (So., 1); 1 Josh Lubin (Sr., 1)  
 RB **41 Travis Prentice (Jr., 2)**; 4 Geoffrey Bowman (Jr., 2)  
 WR 9 Trevor Gaylor (Jr., 2); **84 Sly Johnson (So., 1)**  
 K **7 John Scott (Sr., 2)**; 10 Kent McCullough (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 92 Bob Petrovic (Fr., 0); 85 Andy Sakach (Sr., 3)  
 DT 98 Andy Aracri (So., 1); 65 Shane Martinkovic (Fr., 0)  
 DT 99 James Brachter (Jr., 1); 95 Dave Nugent (Jr., 0)  
 DE **96 Jason Simmons (Sr., 3)**; 89 Joe Lyman (So., 0)  
 LB **46 Dustin Cohen (Jr., 2)**; 51 Mike Montgomery (So., 1)  
 LB **52 Drew Purcell (Sr., 3)**; 32 Julian Goodman (Fr., 0)  
 LB **35 JoJuan Armour (Sr., 3)**; 36 Mike Yeager (Jr., 1)  
 CB 15 DeMario Jones (So., 1); 38 Thomas Davenport (Fr., 0)  
 CB 6 Brandon Godsey (So., 1); Jeff Hunsche (Fr., 0)  
 SS **18 Paris Johnson (Sr., 1)**; 11 Versellias Hammond (Jr., 1)  
 FS **12 Jay Baker (Sr., 3)**; 22 Bryan McCullough (Jr., 2)  
 P **10 Kent McCullough (So., 1)**; 46 Dustin Cohen (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Randy Walker  
 Home Field: Yager Stadium (30,012)

1997 Record (MAC): 8-3 (6-2)  
 1998 Prediction: 1st MAC East



**W**hen Brad Scott arrived in Columbia four seasons ago as a rookie head coach, he brought with him a reputation for offensive innovation. He had directed the "fast break" offense that helped Florida State claim a national championship the season before.

So what happened last season? The Gamecocks were 5-6 and the losses had a

much-needed game experience. The offense still begins with Wright, but it will be less dependent on him this season as the Gamecocks turn to the running game.

Junior Troy Hambrick leads that running game, but he didn't have the breakthrough sophomore season everyone expected. He led the team with 604 yards and five touchdowns rushing, but he showed an inability to break solo arm tackles and was ineffective taking handoffs from a set position. Hambrick looked strong in the spring doing what he does best, catching the ball on pitches and running with a full head of steam.

Scott promises to use fullbacks Jacob Bush and Steve Mixon more this season.

Veterans Zola Davis and Kerry Hood have an opportunity to impress new receivers coach Woody McCorvey, but both were upstaged last season by Jermale Kelly, a freshman All-American who caught 43 passes and set a freshman record with 10 touchdown catches.

Davis has shown a tendency to follow 10-reception games with poor outings. Hood is one of the squad's fastest players but has a tendency to drop passes.

With the departure of center Paul Beckwith and guards Ed Hrubiec and Travis Whitfield, who combined for eight seasons worth of anchoring the middle of the line, the offensive front is without a doubt one of the team's two biggest concerns.

Jamar Nesbit, an All-SEC left tackle, was used at center some in the spring. Redshirt freshmen Jason Cox and Philip Jones should fill the holes at guard. Center Scott

Browne battled neck injuries in the spring, but should play in the fall. Andray Spearman returns at tackle opposite Nesbit.

On the other side of the ball, Cecil Caldwell made his debut at defensive tackle by starting seven games and leading the team with seven tackles for losses. Defensive end John Abraham could be developing into one of the best in the country. Abraham led the team with 6½ sacks and had 14 quarterback pressures and five tackles for losses.

Like the offensive line, the linebacking corps is a huge concern. A youthful duo must step up. Redshirt freshman Willie Offord made a push to start at outside linebacker during the spring, and Andre Offing, seldom used last season, has emerged. Corey Atkins, a returning starter, is coming off a breakthrough season that established him as a player to watch.

**30** The Gamecocks were 4-0 when scoring 30 or more points in a game.

Arturo Freeman is ready to stake his claim not only as the premier free safety in the SEC, but also in the nation. He earned All-SEC honors by intercepting six passes and tying for the team lead with 92 tackles. He has a knack for big plays. He'll be joined by new starting strong safety Ray Green, a former nickel back who is quick and covers lots of ground. Homer Torrance and Kevin Brooks are experienced corners.

Steve Florio, who made nine-of-13 field goals and 27-of-30 PATs, has beaten out 1995 USA TODAY All-American Courtney Leavitt, who will punt for the third consecutive season. Boo Williams led the SEC in kickoff returns with a 29.3-yard average and brought two back for touchdowns.



Mike Moore

## Jamar Nesbit

common theme: three touchdowns or less.

Recognizing the need for radical change, Scott said goodbye to both offensive coordinator John Eason and quarterbacks coach John Reaves and hello to new offensive coordinator Chuck Reedy.

Upon news of Reedy's arrival, many South Carolina fans started gnashing their teeth with fear that Scott had junked his passing game in favor of a wishbone offense. But Scott insists that he and Reedy come from the same school of a two-back philosophy, and that he was only too happy to shift gears into the power I-formation.

Give Scott credit. He may have been hired for his offensive philosophy, but he's not too proud to change that philosophy if it means winning a few more games.

For most South Carolina fans, the lasting image of the 1997 season is that of quarterback Anthony Wright clutching his knee on the turf at Neyland Stadium, with bowl chances gone. Too much depended on Wright staying healthy.

Wright's injury gave Vic Penn some

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

WR 21 Zola Davis (Sr., 3); 9 Kerry Hood (Jr., 2)  
 LT 79 Jamar Nesbit (Sr., 3); 64 Taylor Irvin (Fr., 0)  
 LG 65 Philip Jones (Fr., 0); 71 Kevin Rivers (Fr., 0)  
 C 50 Scott Browne (So., 1); 19 Jamar Nesbit (Sr., 3)  
 RG 74 Jason Cox (Fr., 0); 77 Jim Pietrzak (So., 0)  
 RT 70 Andray Spearman (Sr., 2); 72 Melvin Paige (Fr., 0)  
 TE 97 Trey Pennington (Jr., 2); 86 Trevon Matthews (Jr., 2)  
 WR 84 Jermale Kelly (So., 1); 10 Carlos Spikes (Fr., 0)  
 QB 1 Anthony Wright (Sr., 3); 17 Vic Penn (So., 1)  
 FB 11 Jacob Bush (Jr., 2); 32 Steve Mixon (Jr., 2)  
 RB 19 Troy Hambrick (Jr., 2); 4 Boo Williams (Jr., 2)  
 K 15 Steve Florio (Sr., 3); 7 Courtney Leavitt (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 95 John Abraham (Jr., 2); Teddy Salters (Jr., 0)  
 NG 90 Errol Rochester (Jr., 1); 98 Rachad Wilson (Sr., 1)  
 DT 96 Cecil Caldwell (Jr., 1); 99 Anthony Overstreet (So., 0)  
 DE 94 Matt Marsters (Jr., 2); 91 John Stamper (Fr., 0)  
 LB 58 Corey Atkins (Jr., 2); 31 Darion Hutcherson (Fr., 0)  
 LB 36 Andre Offing (So., 0); 51 Marco Hutchinson (So., 1)  
 LB 20 Willie Offord (Fr., 0); 43 Daron Brooker (Jr., 1)  
 CB 25 Homer Torrance (Sr., 1); 13 Keris Sullivan (Sr., 2)  
 CB 5 Kevin Brooks (Sr., 1); 35 Andre Goodman (Fr., 0)  
 SS 3 Ray Green (Jr., 2); 33 Maurice Henderson (Sr., 3)  
 FS 12 Arturo Freeman (Sr., 3); 30 O'Rondal Cox (Fr., 0)  
 P 7 Courtney Leavitt (Jr., 2); 15 Steve Florio (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Brad Scott

Home Field: Williams-Brice Stadium (80,250)

1997 Record (SEC): 5-6 (3-5)

1998 Prediction: 5th SEC East



**A**s a coach at a top 10 academic university, Gary Barnett must know something about a learning curve. Following last year's 5-7 rebuilding, that's all Barnett can talk about, getting his young and talented players to perform with the experience, poise and confidence of the teams from the previous two years.

When the Wildcats get through that

to use a two-man rotation last year and will most likely do the same this season if no player steps to the front.

The likely front runner at tailback is Tyrone Gooch, but a couple of youngsters could really light up the ground game this year for the Wildcats. Brian Marshall, who carried 42 times and scored two touchdowns last year, and Damien Anderson are explosive runners who will see significant playing time, especially if Gooch falters. The fullback position is deep and experienced with seniors Matt Hartl and Levelle Brown.

The Wildcats got a scare when Bates, who broke his leg in the 1997 season opener, went down during the first week of spring drills with a hairline fracture in his left foot. But last year's preseason All-American is expected to recover from surgery in time for fall camp. John Burden returns, but a third consistent receiver will be a must if Bates is sidelined again. Tight ends Joel Stuart, Jay Tant and transfer John Cerasani are sure-handed and will be used often this season.

Next to the quarterback situation, Barnett is most worried about building the protection around the new tosser. Graduation took a mean cut out of the front line. Depth is a problem, but returning starters Bryan LaBelle, Brian Hemmerle and probable center Ty Garner will anchor the squad. After those three, it's wide open. The Wildcats were down to 10 healthy linemen by the end of spring drills.

Like their offensive counterparts, the defensive line is also lacking depth behind the top three players. Bobby Russ, Jeff Dyra

and Darryl Hodge all return with significant experience. Also with the potential to see some playing time right away is freshman Craig Albrecht, a heavily recruited Parade All-America lineman out of St. Louis.

Barnett will love talking about his linebackers this season. All-Big Ten selection Barry Gardner, who led the conference in tackles last season (174), will shore up the inside along with junior Preston Letts. Barnett is depending on senior Kevin Buck, a platoon player the last two seasons, to finally live up to his potential at outside linebacker as big-play junior Anawn Jones was suspended for the 1998 season for academic reasons. Sophomore Napoleon Harris has the wheels to be a force.

**24** The number of games Northwestern has won over the last three years, the most since 1903-05. A winning season this year will surpass any four-year period in school history.



**Barry Gardner**

learning curve, Barnett will have Northwestern back to the top of the Big Ten with the talented, but inexperienced "Rose Bowl Kids" (juniors) and the "Citrus Bowl Children" (sophomores) serving as the bulk of the team. That championship run will probably have to wait a year, to when the Wildcats drop Ohio State and Penn State from the schedule. But with the return of wide receiver D'Wayne Bates, who was injured last year, a solid defense that returns six starters, and a little Purple magic, a bowl invitation and the third winning season in the last four years is possible.

Barnett could lose some sleep worrying about who will run the Wildcats' offense this year. Last year's senior tandem of Tim Hughes and Chris Hamdorf gave the younger quarterbacks little game-time experience and that could hurt Northwestern this fall. Sophomore Gavin Hoffman is the expected starter but could be pushed by nimble lefty Nick Kreinbrink or Missouri transfer John McArthur, the most experienced of the three. Barnett did not hesitate

In the secondary, three-year starting safety Mike Nelson Jr. returns but boasts only three career picks. Kyle Sanders will handle the other safety position. Cornerbacks Harold Blackmon and Fred Wilkerson also make a return appearance.

Just like last year, the search goes on for a punter. Baseball player J.J. Standing or junior Eron Kosmowski could wind up with the job. Placekicker Brian Gowins returns after leading the Big Ten in field goals made last year (20). Any of several wideouts could take care of the punts, including Bates, while sophomore Teddy Johnson and Gooch will likely handle kick-offs.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

WR 5 D'Wayne Bates (Sr., 2); 85 Phil Miller (Jr., 1)  
 LT 79 Bryan LaBelle (Sr., 3); 75 Joe Collins (So., 0)  
 LG 70 Brian Hemmerle (Sr., 1); 68 Neil Carroll (Jr., 0)  
 C 57 Ty Garner (Jr., 1); 52 Adam Fay (So., 0)  
 RG 77 Lance Clelland (So., 0); 68 Neil Carroll (Jr., 0)  
 RT 56 Mike Souza (So., 0); 67 Leon Brockmeier (So., 0)  
 TE 84 Jay Tant (Jr., 2); 87 Joel Stuart (Sr., 2)  
 WR 80 John Burden (Sr., 2); 18 Teddy Johnson (So., 0)  
 QB 14 Gavin Hoffman (So., 0); 6 John McArthur (Sr., 0)  
 FB 46 Matt Hartl (Sr., 2); 34 Levelle Brown (Sr., 3)  
 RB 16 Tyrone Gooch (Sr., 1); 28 Brian Marshall (So., 1)  
 K 13 Brian Gowins (Sr., 3); 39 Tim Long (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 95 Dwayne Missouri (Jr., 0); 94 Salem Simon (So., 0)  
 DT 99 Jeff Dyra (Sr., 1); 91 Marc Lapadula (Sr., 0)  
 DT 78 Darryl Hodge (Jr., 1); 98 Bobby Russ (Sr., 3)  
 DE 90 Thor Schmidt (Sr., 2); 97 Gladston Taylor (Sr., 0)  
 LB 55 Barry Gardner (Sr., 3); 47 Conrad Emmerich (Jr., 1)  
 LB 43 Preston Letts (Jr., 1); 8 Napoleon Harris (So., 0)  
 LB 9 Kevin Buck (Sr., 3); 8 Napoleon Harris (So., 0)  
 CB 6 Harold Blackmon (Jr., 1); 17 Josh Barnes (Sr., 3)  
 CB 21 Fred Wilkerson (Sr., 3); 11 Gerald Conway (Sr., 2)  
 SS 31 Kyle Sanders (Sr., 2); 4 Mycal Jones (So., 1)  
 FS 26 Mike Nelson (Sr., 3); 24 Rashad Morton (Jr., 1)  
 P 42 J.J. Standing (So., 0); 88 Eron Kosmowski (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach: Gary Barnett**  
**Home Field: Ryan Field (47,129)**

**1997 Record: 5-7 (3-5)**  
**1998 Prediction: 8th Big 10**



If last season's 2-9 record doesn't prove that Maryland is far from contending in the Atlantic Coast Conference, this season's similar record surely will.

The Terps remain committed to developing young talent, and coaches are still having difficulties familiarizing players with new schemes on both sides of the ball. Maryland must also withstand the progress

group of running backs. Jordan has speed, power and some Elvis in his hips. Fellow sophomore Damone Boone played in only two games last year due to nagging hamstring troubles but could make a breakthrough this year. And Vanderlinden wants Terp fans to take a good look at Marc Riley, an incoming freshman who chose Maryland over the Big Ten's best.

A young crop of receivers saw plenty of work last year, but no one distinguished himself as a big-time playmaker. Moises Cruz led the team with 29 receptions but averaged only 11.6 yards per catch. Sophomore Doug Patterson was a starter last year but is sliding down the depth chart. Jason Hatala has blazing speed but lacks the consistency to make routine catches. Omar Cheeseboro has potential, while Jerome Arrington and Curtis Jones have decent speed.

At tight end, 262-pound Wisconsin transfer John Waerig has the strength to clear a path for Maryland's backs to get the ball out on the perimeter, and has displaced last year's starter, Mike Hull.

Vanderlinden expects sophomore center Ben Thomas to be a stalwart and wants senior right tackle John Feugill to play harder. Junior Brad Messina moves from left guard to left tackle and should be pretty good there, thanks to his quickness. After that, it's a crap shoot. Vanderlinden hired veteran line coach Elliot Uzelac to pull the unit together, and that's a plus.

Three starters must be replaced on the defensive line, including Hula Bowl MVP Eric Ogbogu. 255-pound junior Delbert

Cowsette is the projected nose tackle, and sophomore Kris Jenkins is the other tackle. Senior Rasheed Simmons, two years removed from his decision to leave Michigan, may yet achieve his potential. He will join junior Peter Timmins, last year's starting fullback, at end. Depth is a concern.

Any discussion of Maryland's defense must begin with senior linebackers Kendall Ogle and Eric Barton, who finished two-three in tackles last year in the ACC. Barton handles the middle and co-led the team with 10 stops behind the line last year. Both could earn first-team all-ACC. Playing in their shadows is junior Erwyn Lyght, no slouch himself. He has the speed to blitz and cover backs on pass routes.

**689**

Sophomore LaMont Jordan led all ACC freshmen in rushing last season with 689 yards on 159 attempts. His rushing total ranked him fifth overall in the conference.



**LaMont Jordan**

made by other former doormats of the league like North Carolina State and Wake Forest. Can Maryland contend in '98? No.

Although the Terps don't figure to join the first division of the ACC, they could grab a couple of non-conference wins this year, thanks to a season-opener at home to James Madison, then Temple three weeks later. Other than that, it will be tough.

Coach Ron Vanderlinden wishes Brian Cummings could be back for another year in College Park, largely because there is no proven quarterback to replace him. Leading the early list of candidates is 6-3 junior Ken Mastrole, who attempted just 19 passes last year after starting twice in '96. He has a strong arm and is familiar with the offense, but Vanderlinden isn't sold on his ability. Either Gil Harris or Erik Lipton, a pair of redshirt freshmen who were part of Vanderlinden's first recruiting class, or junior Trey Evans could be the answer.

Sophomore LaMont Jordan, who rushed for a '97 team-high 689 yards and averaged 4.3 yards per carry, heads a young, talented

Plenty of familiar names return to the secondary, but Vanderlinden is planning to experiment. Lewis Sanders made 74 tackles and had four interceptions from his free safety spot, and could move to cornerback to be paired with junior college import Renard Cox, with junior Lynde Washington, a starter in '97, the odd man out. Sophomore Shawn Forte will settle in at free safety with senior Paul Jackson the early favorite at strong safety.

Sophomore placekicker Brian Kopka has the leg to be reliable but must hold off the challenge of Brad Rhodes. Senior Russ Edwards returns as punter after averaging 38.0 yards. Sanders averaged a strong 24.2 yards on kickoff returns.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

WR 3 Omar Cheeseboro (So., 1); **84 Doug Patterson (So., 1)**  
 LT **75 Brad Messina (Jr., 1)**; 72 Mike Sherman (Fr., 0)  
 LG 70 Eric Timothy (Jr., 1); 79 Mike George (Fr., 0)  
 C **63 Ben Thomas (So., 1)**; 55 Anthony Surman (Sr., 0)  
 RG 56 Jamie Wu (Jr., 1); 51 Chris Snader (Fr., 0)  
 RT **66 John Feugill (Sr., 3)**; 77 Timm Howard (So., 0)  
 TE 45 John Waerig (Jr., 0); **92 Mike Hull (So., 1)**  
 QB 14 Ken Mastrole (Jr., 1); 5 Trey Evans (Jr., 1)  
 FB 45 Matt Kalapinski (So., 1); 33 Frank Mentzel (So., 0)  
 TB **15 LaMont Jordan (So., 1)**; 24 Damone Boone (So., 0)  
 WR **86 Moises Cruz (So., 1)**; 49 Jason Hatala (So., 1)  
 K **17 Brian Kopka (So., 1)**; 7 Brad Rhodes (Sr., 3)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 47 Peter Timmins (Jr., 2); 35 Jomo Huggins (Jr., 0)  
 DT 57 Kris Jenkins (So., 1); 65 Derrick Jones (Fr., 0)  
 NT **91 Delbert Cowsette (Jr., 2)**; 67 Melvin Fowler (Fr., 0)  
 DE 55 Rasheed Simmons (Sr., 1); 93 Eric Calendine (Jr., 0)  
 OLB **32 Kendall Ogle (Sr., 3)**; 46 Reggie Lewis (Fr., 0)  
 ILB **44 Eric Barton (Sr., 3)**; 52 Monte Graves (Fr., 0)  
 OLB **41 Erwyn Lyght (Jr., 2)**; 39 Ryan Swift (Fr., 0)  
 CB **37 Lewis Sanders (Jr., 2)**; **12 Lynde Washington (Jr., 2)**  
 CB Renard Cox (Jr., 0); 25 Cliff Crosby (Sr., 2)  
 SS 36 Paul Jackson (Sr., 2); 18 Todd Stewart (Sr., 1)  
 FS 13 Shawn Forte (So., 0); 27 Tony Jackson (So., 1)  
 P **30 Russ Edwards (Sr., 2)**; 10 Sean Starnier (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Ron Vanderlinden  
 Home Field: Byrd Stadium (48,055)

1997 Record (ACC): 2-9 (1-7)  
 1998 Prediction: 6th ACC



**T**welve 1997 starters, including the winningest quarterback and two of the most dependable defensive backs in Texas Tech history, are gone.

What the Red Raiders must replace, however, may not be as telling as what they get to replace. Tennessee, Nebraska and Kansas State, Top 10 teams Tech lost to in 1997, have been replaced by UTEP, Iowa

If he stays healthy, Donnie Hart could be the best receiver in the Big 12. The sure-handed Hart began 1997 with 33 catches for 523 yards in his first four games. While a hamstring injury against Kansas kept him out of four of the final six games, he still averaged 5.9 catches per game, the most in the Big 12. The dropoff after Hart is substantial. Derek Dorris is the only other returning wide receiver who had more than five receptions last year. Kyle Allamon will take over the tight end duties.

If bigger is truly better, Texas Tech has the potential to be pretty good up front on offense, despite losing three starters from 1997. The projected starting lineup of guards Erik Carruth and Curtis Lowrey, tackles Jonathan Gray and Steve McFadden, and center Robert Haddon averages about 318 pounds per player. That average size would be reduced if tackle Justin Collingsworth, who started most of last year, can reclaim his spot in the lineup.

Senior defensive end Montae Reagor, a big-play specialist, is one of the most exciting defenders in the country. Reagor, a second-team All-America selection last year, led the Big 12 with five fumbles caused and finished fourth in the league with 10½ sacks. Tech's other defensive end, junior Taurus Rucker, also is an extremely active player, finishing with 73 stops last year. With Rucker on one end, opponents can't simply run away from Reagor.

The problem is at tackle, where Tech must replace both Cody McGuire and junior Stoney Garland, whose career was ended by a life-threatening car accident last

Thanksgiving. Talented but unproven sophomores Jason Jones and Kris Kocurek will share duty at one tackle spot. Cody Patton, a 300-pounder, clogs up the middle on running plays.

Much like the defensive front, Raider linebackers are questionable in the middle and solid on the outside.

Kyle Shipley and Sam Hooks will battle for the opportunity to start at middle linebacker.

The situation is far more optimistic on the outside, where junior Tim Duffie (weak side) has beaten out last year's starter Kevin McCullar, and senior Ty Ardoin (strong side) returns after a solid season.

**1-2** Tech has started every season since 1990 with a 1-2 record. The cure to that stretch of bad starts comes in the form of UTEP, North Texas and Fresno State.

The secondary will be led by Darwin Brown, who topped the Big 12 in pass breakups last year and is a talented, proven cornerback.

Unfortunately for the Raiders, Brown is the only returning secondary player who meets that description.

Free safety John Norman is probably the most talented of the prospective starters. Strong safety Keith Cockrum and cornerback Oscar Solis are likely to round out the starting lineup. Reagan Bownds at strong safety and Brian Giddens at corner are talented backups.

Jaret Greaser, who has career-long field goals of 55 and 53 yards, could be one of the best kickers in the Big 12. Jeremy Hernandez and Brian Roberson return after sharing the punting duties.



## Ricky Williams

State and Colorado. So, while the Raiders may not be as talented as last year, they could have a better record than last year's 6-5 mark. Barring a complete collapse, Tech should be 5-0 before the schedule gets tough. Early confidence may be just what this often inconsistent team needs to contend in the Big 12 South.

With the departure of versatile four-year starter Zebbie Lethridge, quarterback is a key concern for the Raiders. But, while Rob Peters lacks experience, he may be even more versatile than Lethridge; he's played nine different positions in two years and averaged 5.7 yards per rush, although he has attempted only 14 passes.

Considered a weakness prior to last year, running back could be Tech's offensive strength. Diminutive but dynamic tailback Ricky Williams returns after rushing for 894 yards in '97 and earning freshman All-America honors.

Converted linebacker Jonathan Hawkins, a solid blocker who averaged over four yards per carry, played well last year at fullback.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**SE** 82 Donnie Hart (Sr., 3); 81 Tim Baker (So., 1)  
**LT** 79 Jonathan Gray (So., 1); 57 Matt Heider (Fr., 0)  
**LG** 61 Curtis Lowrey (Jr., 1); 73 John DePasquale (So., 0)  
**C** 50 Robert Haddon (Sr., 1); 59 Kyle Sanders (So., 0)  
**RG** 77 Erik Carruth (Sr., 2); 69 Dan Martin (Jr., 0)  
**RT** 71 Steve McFadden (So., 1); **62 Justin Collingsworth (Sr., 2)**  
**TE** 94 Kyle Allamon (Jr., 1); 84 Cole Roberts (So., 1)  
**QB** 9 Rob Peters (Jr., 2); 16 Matt Tittle (Jr., 1)  
**FB** 47 Jonathan Hawkins (So., 1); 42 Sammy Morris (Jr., 1)  
**TB** 35 Ricky Williams (So., 1); 12 Rickey Hunter (Sr., 1)  
**FL** 22 Derek Dorris (So., 1); 85 Dee Jackson (So., 1)  
**K** 97 Jaret Greaser (Sr., 3); Chris Birkholz (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (5)

**DE** 34 Montae Reagor (Sr., 3); 37 Devin Lemons (So., 1)  
**NT** 99 Cody Patton (Jr., 2); 86 Terry Patton (Jr., 2)  
**DT** 76 Kris Kocurek (So., 1); 90 Jason Jones (So., 1)  
**DE** 89 Taurus Rucker (Jr., 2); 70 Kenneth Kacal (Sr., 1)  
**SLB** 29 Ty Ardoin (Sr., 3); 36 Robby Cartwright (Sr., 2)  
**MLB** 83 Kyle Shipley (Jr., 2); 43 Sam Hooks (Fr., 0)  
**WLB** 26 Tim Duffie (Jr., 2); **5 Kevin McCullar (Jr., 2)**  
**CB** 3 Darwin Brown (Sr., 3); 30 Antwan Alexander (So., 1)  
**CB** 28 Oscar Solis (Jr., 2); 10 Brian Giddens (So., 1)  
**SS** 20 Keith Cockrum (Jr., 2); 23 Reagan Bownds (Jr., 2)  
**FS** 38 John Norman (So., 1); 19 Mark Washington (So., 1)  
**P** 14 Jeremy Hernandez (Sr., 2); 25 Brian Roberson (Jr., 1)

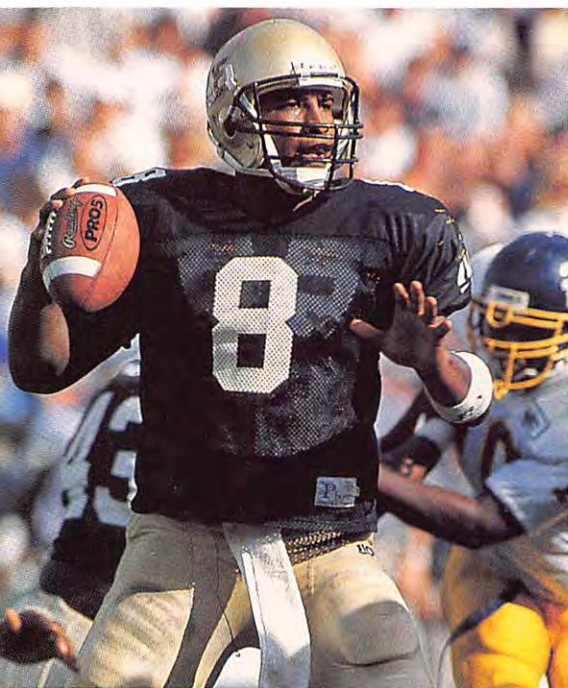
(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach: Spike Dykes**  
**Home Field: Jones Stadium (50,500)**

**1997 Record (Big 12): 6-5 (5-3)**  
**1998 Prediction: 5th Big 12 South**



It started with a pass incompleteness on a junior high school practice field. The long down-field bomb sailed 10 yards beyond the grasp of a tall seventh-grader trying out for wide receiver. He was so miffed at the miss that he retrieved the ball from the turf and threw it all the way back up the field. He's been playing quarterback ever since.



Paul Chapman/UCF Sports

## Daunte Culpepper

After an All-America high school career at Ocala (Fla.) Vanguard High, Daunte Culpepper enjoyed a sensational freshman year in 1995 as Central Florida's starting quarterback, throwing for over 2,000 yards and 12 touchdowns despite the absence of his team's two best receivers (one was injured, the other ineligible). And he was just getting started.

Culpepper may be the top pro prospect among this year's senior quarterbacks. In 1997 he was named first-team All-America by the *NFL Draft Report* after completing 62.5 percent of his passes for 3,086 yards and 25 touchdowns. The 6-5, 240-pound senior also ran for 438 yards last season, second-best on the team.

After the Nebraska game last Sept. 13 — a contest Central Florida led until well into the third quarter — Cornhusker All-America rush end Grant Wistrom remarked, "He's one of the best quarterbacks in the country. You're not going to find many with his combination of size, speed and the accuracy he has with his arm."

After amassing 480 yards of total offense — 385 passing — last season against Northeast Louisiana, Culpepper was signing autographs for a youth football team. One of the youngsters, awed by the performance he had just witnessed, asked Culpepper, "How come there's a pro quarterback playing in college?"

Senior Mike Grant returns at tailback after leading the team in rushing a year ago with 565 yards and 12 touchdowns. Sophomores Edward Mack, who redshirted last season after a promising freshman year, and Dwight Collins, who averaged a team-high 6.5 yards on 42 carries as a true freshman, are battling for playing time. Junior Page Sessoms moves up at fullback, strictly a lead blocking job at UCF.

Senior wide receiver Siaha Burley finished the 1997 season sixth in the nation with 77 catches for 1,106 yards and seven touchdowns. Senior Mark Nonsant added 48 catches for 703 yards and three scores. When the Knights line up in a three-wide receiver set, junior Charles Lee, who caught six touchdown passes in '97, is in the slot. Seniors Joey Hubbard and Ben Goldberg are listed 1-2 at tight end.

In the offensive line, there are returning starters at every position. Senior Ryan Gillis, who sat out 1997 after successful cancer surgery, has reclaimed the guard spot he occupied in '96. Junior tackle Frank Haynes should be back with the front five by the fall, after recuperating from a laceration that cut tendons in his ankle. If not, sophomore Freddie Moore can fill in. Senior Cornell Green, 6-6, 310 and ath-

letic, is the strong-side tackle. Senior guard Marcus Jenkins and sophomore center Chris Lorenti round out the starting unit.

Sophomore Fred Harley and junior Marv Richardson have first shot at the defensive end assignments. Harley was a starting tackle a year ago. Junior Justen Moore enters his third year as a starter at tackle, where sophomore Jeff Mauldin logged 27 stops off the bench as a rookie.

Senior Mike Palmer is a playmaker from his weak-side linebacker spot. Junior Deaubrey Devine, who collected 22 tackles in the Nebraska game, moves up to full-time status in the middle. Senior Deon Porter moved from free safety to shore up the third linebacking spot and will enter fall as a starter.

8,279

Yards of total offense that quarterback Daunte Culpepper has accumulated over his first three years at Central Florida.

Senior cornerback Reginald Doster notched two interceptions and 10 pass deflections in '97. Sophomore Damien Demps is penciled in at free safety, Tyrell Rice at strong safety. Sophomore Davin Bush, who started eight games as a freshman in '96, will start in the corner opposite Doster after redshirting last year.

Senior Fred Waczewski, a Lou Groza Award semifinalist in '97, will handle the kicking while Chad Downey will punt.

Mike Kruczek took over as head coach after Gene McDowell stepped down in January. Since Kruczek had been McDowell's offensive coordinator since 1985, the transition should be smooth.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (10)

WR 18 Mark Nonsant (Sr., 3); 19 Eric Leister (Sr., 2)  
LT 70 Cornell Green (Sr., 3); 68 Kurt Baumann (So., 1)  
LG 71 Marcus Jenkins (Sr., 3); 78 Ahmed El-Hawary (So., 1)  
C 76 Chris Lorenti (So., 1); 77 Daron Herndon (So., 1)  
RG 72 Ryan Gillis (Sr., 3); 69 John Beauchamp (So., 1)  
RT 79 Frank Haynes (Jr., 2); 75 Freddie Moore (So., 1)  
TE 86 Joey Hubbard (Sr., 3); 34 Ben Goldberg (Sr., 1)  
QB 8 Daunte Culpepper (Sr., 3); 14 Jason Thorpe (Sr., 2)  
FB 35 Page Sessoms (Jr., 1); 33 Dossy Robbins (Sr., 0)  
TB 24 Mike Grant (Sr., 2); 23 Edward Mack (So., 1)  
WR 1 Siaha Burley (Sr., 1); 88 Kenny Clark (So., 1)  
K 29 Fred Waczewski (Sr., 3); 12 Chad Downey (Sr., 1)

### DEFENSE (5)

DE 80 Fred Harley (So., 1); 58 Edwin Ferguson (Jr., 0)  
DT 91 Justen Moore (Jr., 2); 93 Scott Dedelow (Jr., 2)  
DE 85 Jeff Mauldin (So., 1); 95 Josh McKibben (Fr., 0)  
DT 87 Marv Richardson (Jr., 2); 99 Mike Hulsman (Fr., 0)  
LB 22 Deon Porter (Sr., 2); Tony Hardman (Fr., 0)  
LB 6 Deaubrey Devine (Jr., 2); Tito Rodriguez (Fr., 0)  
LB 41 Mike Palmer (Sr., 2); 46 Willie Davis (So., 1)  
CB 3 Reginald Doster (Sr., 3); 2 Paul Miranda (Sr., 2)  
CB 11 Davin Bush (So., 1); 4 Jeff Fye (Jr., 1)  
SS 17 Tyrell Rice (So., 1); 36 Elliott Shorter (Fr., 0)  
FS 10 Damien Demps (So., 1); Tommy Shavers (So., 0)  
P 12 Chad Downey (Sr., 1); 21 Jay Dukes (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters BOLD indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mike Kruczek

1997 Record (Independent): 5-6

Home Field: Florida Citrus Bowl (70,188)



**N**orth Carolina State's Mike O'Cain has seen good days and bad in his five years as the Wolfpack head coach, and he just hopes the bad ones are behind him now. A pair of 3-8 seasons in 1995 and '96 had State fans decidedly uneasy about the direction of the program, but the Pack won its last three games to post a 6-5 record last season and just missed a

King. Rahshon Spikes, the former Connecticut prep star, is more than eager to step in for Stephens after rushing for almost 300 yards and six TDs last year. Spikes is perhaps O'Cain's most high-profile recruit, a *Parade* All-America who was called New England's best back in 1995.

The Pack will be hard-pressed to match King's toughness. Jeff Butler, Kevin Hubbard and Harold Jackson all know the job is there to be won.

One of the Pack's biggest victories came when All-ACC flanker Torry Holt passed up the NFL for one more year of college ball. The speedy senior, one of the league's most dangerous players, caught 62 passes for 1,099 yards and 16 TDs in 1997, all school records, and should own all of the career marks after this year.

Teaming with Holt will be junior Chris Coleman, who is not afraid to go into a crowd for the ball, and 5-9 flanker Eric Leak.

The offensive line may need time to settle this year. Tackles Ian Rafferty and Todd Boyle are coming off knee injuries and Justin Burroughs has been shifted from guard to center. Rafferty may also be moved to guard, freeing up 332-pound Jarvis Borum to start at tackle. Alex Santos and Ryan Knudtson have started at times at guard but will be pushed by Tommy DeFoe and Jermaine Wilkinson.

The biggest reason for the aforementioned losing seasons was a defensive line that was woefully weak and undermanned.

But the Pack, which gave up 227 rushing yards a game and 4.9 yards a carry in 1996, lowered those figures to a respectable 130 and 3.5 yards last season. O'Cain expects

more of the same from defensive ends Bobbie Cotten and Greg Derrick, and at tackle from Andre Wray, Darius Bryant, Rashad Streets, Cecil McCurdy and Jeff Fisher.

Linebacker is the Pack's biggest concern. State is solid with middle linebacker Sheldon Kee, a squat but rangy type whose 82 hits, including five behind the line, were a team high.

Clayton White also is a hitter who can produce big plays.

But Tim Ramseur abruptly transferred during spring drills, saying he no longer felt comfortable in the program, and the Pack needs some help from Derek Roberts and Tramayne Simmons.

**1,000  
x2**

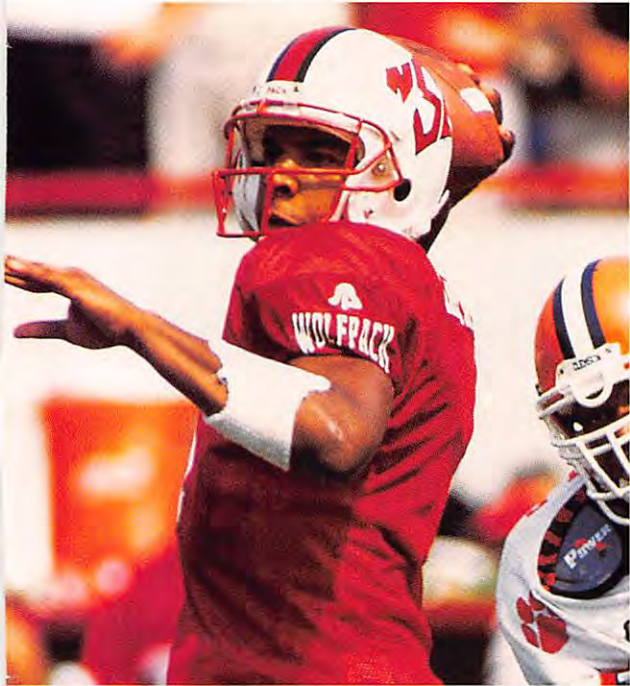
The Pack's goal is to have both a 1,000-yard rusher and a 1,000-yard receiver this season.

If that sounds unlikely, consider that State was only the fifth school in ACC history to accomplish it last year with Stephens (1,142) and Holt (1,099). How about Spikes and Holt?

In the secondary, Tony Scott and Marcelle Hough will man the corners, with junior Eric Riddick and seniors Rodney Redd and Jason Perry the top three safeties.

Scott led the ACC with 18 pass pickups and Riddick had 63 tackles at strong safety. State allowed 249 passing yards a game last year and intercepted only eight passes on the season.

Scott Earwood and sophomore Kent Passingham will compete at placekicker, and Jesse Wade will be the punter. Holt showed some flair returning punts, once breaking a 56-yarder, and Spikes gives the Pack a threat on kickoffs.



Tim O'Dell

## Jamie Barnette

bowl game. O'Cain, in turn, was rewarded with a four-year contract extension, a salary boost and more peace of mind.

O'Cain knows a few things about quarterback play. He was a three year letterman as the signal caller at Clemson in the mid-1970s. One of O'Cain's finest days came, you guessed it, against NC State in 1976, when he rushed for 140 yards and passed for 86, accounting for three touchdowns. But O'Cain will also tell you State won that game, 38-21.

Jamie Barnette wasn't fully ready to be the starter when he was thrust into the job in 1996, but he's an All-ACC candidate now. Although said to have a strong but erratic arm, Barnette answered his critics by passing for 2,378 yards and 19 touchdowns last year. In fact, in his 14 career starts, he's passed for more than 200 yards 11 times, and he is an elusive handful when he decides to scramble and run.

Barnette will see new faces in the backfield after the graduation of tailback Tremayne Stephens and fullback Carlos

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

SE 84 Chris Coleman (Jr., 2); 31 Roderick Brown (Sr., 3)  
LT 60 Ian Rafferty (Sr., 3); 68 Jarvis Borum (So., 1)  
LG 61 Alex Santos (Sr., 2); 74 Tommy DeFoe (Fr., 0)  
C 52 Justin Burroughs (Sr., 3); 75 J.J. Jones (Sr., 0)  
RG 70 Ryan Knudtson (Jr., 2); 78 Jermaine Wilkinson (So., 1)  
RT 55 Todd Boyle (Jr., 2); 77 John Fletcher (Jr., 1)  
TE 87 Michael Foushee (Sr., 2); 89 Devon Smith (Sr., 3)  
QB 4 Jamie Barnette (Jr., 2); 14 Charles Berry (So., 0)  
FB 30 Jeff Butler (Sr., 3); 34 Kevin Hubbard (Jr., 2)  
TB 17 Rahshon Spikes (Jr., 2); 5 Theodore Davis (Sr., 2)  
FL 81 Torry Holt (Sr., 3); 10 Eric Leak (So., 1)  
K 25 Scott Earwood (Jr., 1); 26 Kent Passingham (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (5)

DE 36 Bobbie Cotten (Sr., 3); 49 Corey Smith (Fr., 0)  
DT 98 Rashad Streets (So., 1); 99 Cecil McCurdy (So., 0)  
DT 77 Darius Bryant (Fr., 0); 92 Andre Wray (Sr., 1)  
DE 3 Greg Derrick (Sr., 1); 91 Clint Johnson (So., 1)  
LB 58 Tramayne Simmons (So., 1); 42 Derek Roberts (Jr., 1)  
LB 57 Sheldon Kee (Jr., 2); 42 Derek Roberts (Jr., 1)  
LB 15 Clayton White (So., 1); 12 Kevin Turks (Sr., 2)  
CB 27 Tony Scott (Jr., 2); 33 Eric Riddick (Jr., 2)  
CB 2 Lloyd Harrison (Jr., 2); 21 Marcelle Hough (Jr., 2)  
SS 8 Rodney Redd (Sr., 3); 33 Eric Riddick (Jr., 2)  
FS 9 Jason Perry (Sr., 3); 17 Shantay Taylor (Jr., 0)  
P 25 Scott Earwood (Jr., 0); 26 Kent Passingham (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mike O'Cain  
Home Field: Carter-Finley Stadium (59,000)

1997 Record (ACC): 6-5 (3-5)  
1998 Prediction: 7th ACC



Last year was shaping up as a dream season for Mississippi State; but it concluded in a 7-4 finish and the Bulldogs didn't even receive a bowl bid.

The lack of consistent play at quarterback was a key factor. This year's team could be as good or better than last year, if one position improves. "The quarterback has to be more productive," coach Jackie Sherrill says.



**James Johnson**

All the other ingredients seem to be in place. Four of five starters return on the line, a 1,000-yard rusher is back and the defense has improved each of the last two seasons under coordinator Joe Lee Dunn. Filling the quarterback position is the key.

Matt Wyatt returns, but he might not be the starter by September. In 10 starts last year, Wyatt completed less than half his passes, threw only six touchdowns and was intercepted 15 times. Offensive coordinator Lynn Amedee is simplifying the offense with hopes of taking pressure off whomever ends up starting. The coaches haven't given up on Wyatt, but he received a big challenge in the spring from redshirt freshman Wayne Madkin; in the fall, junior college transfer Kelvin Love and freshman Brandon Butler will also get looks.

Senior tailback James "J.J." Johnson became just the fourth player in school history to gain more than 1,000 yards. He rushed for 1,069 and 12 touchdowns on 217 carries last season. A key will be developing a backup. Chris Rainey has been

in the program for three years but hasn't played much.

After two years as a backup, Dennis McKinley, a hard runner with better-than-average speed for his position, will start at fullback. Junior college transfer Rod Gibson is a good receiver out of the backfield who could see action at fullback and tailback.

Receivers are still an unproven area, but Kevin Prentiss and Kevin Cooper both have big-play talent. They missed parts of last year with injuries, and if he stays healthy, Cooper should beat out Lahitia Grant on one side. Junior Matt Butler doesn't have breakaway speed but has great hands.

The Bulldogs have three good tight ends in Reginald Kelly, John Jennings and Terrence McCaskey. Kelly might be used more as an H-back this year, putting him and Jennings on the field at the same time.

Four starters return on an offensive line that Sherrill says has a chance to be as good as any he's ever coached. The only non-senior is sophomore Floyd "Pork Chop" Womack, penciled in at left tackle. Anthony Kapp, has been moved to right tackle, where he'll be challenged by junior college transfer Wes Shivers. Center Eric Allen was the most consistent lineman last year, and Randy Thomas and Craig Moore return at the guards.

All five starters are gone from the defensive line, but the three interior backups have plenty of experience. Kevin Sluder and John Hilliard start at tackles, and Kenwoyenne Smith is the nose guard. But that lineup could change to make room for

Alvin McKinley, rated as one of the top junior college linemen in the country last year. An area of concern is end where Larry Campbell was plagued by injuries last year and Cornell Menafee didn't meet expectations. Edward Smith, a special teams terror last year, might find a home at rush end.

Linebacker Barrin Simpson was last year's second-leading tackler and is poised for a stellar season. Candidates for the other spot are Bert Keys, Edward Yeates and Jamaal Dinkins, who played mainly on special teams. Dinkins could also wind up at end.

**8** The number of SEC ranking positions the Bulldogs have improved in total defense since 1995, when they finished last. In 1996, coordinator Joe Lee Dunn's first year, they finished eighth, followed by a fourth-place finish in 1997.

The secondary is the most experienced area on the defense, but who will replace cornerback Izell McGill, who led the team in interceptions each of the last two seasons? Kendall Roberson is set at right corner. Adesola Badon started two years ago and will battle for the other spot with speedy junior college transfer Robert Bean.

Senior Anthony Derrickicks returns at free safety and junior Tim Nelson is back at strong safety, both are being pushed by Eugene Clinton and Eric Daniel.

Placekicker Brian Hazelwood, although at times inconsistent, led the SEC last year with 16-of-26 field goals, including a career-best 53-yarder that beat Memphis on the final play of the game. Punter Jeff Walker's 45.5-yard average was second-best in the SEC and seventh-best in the nation.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

SE 88 Kevin Cooper (Sr., 1); 4 Lahitia Grant (Sr., 3)  
LT 72 Floyd Womack (So., 1); 79 Tron Thomas (So., 1)  
LG 65 Craig Moore (Sr., 1); 69 Stoney Price (Sr., 3)  
C 53 Eric Allen (Sr., 3); 74 Paul Mooney (Jr., 2)  
RG 77 Randy Thomas (Sr., 1); 52 Michael Fair (So., 1)  
RT 78 Anthony Kapp (Sr., 1); 68 Wes Shivers (Jr., 0)  
TE 89 Reginald Kelly (Sr., 3); **81 John Jennings (Sr., 3)**  
FL 12 Kevin Prentiss (Sr., 1); 23 Matthew Butler (Jr., 2)  
QB 7 Matt Wyatt (Jr., 2); 9 Wayne Madkin (Fr., 0)  
FB 39 Dennis McKinley (Sr., 3); 33 Rod Gibson (Jr., 0)  
RB 22 James Johnson (Sr., 1); 37 Chris Rainey (Jr., 2)  
K 15 Brian Hazelwood (Sr., 3); 42 Jeff Walker (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (4)

DE 46 Larry Campbell (Sr., 3); 20 Rob Knight (Jr., 2)  
DT 48 Kevin Sluder (Jr., 2); 94 Kenric Fairchild (Fr., 0)  
NG 99 Kenwoyenne Smith (Sr., 3); 96 Garth Henry (Jr., 0)  
DT 95 John Hilliard (Jr., 2); 92 Ellis Wymys (So., 1)  
DE 40 Cornell Menafee (Jr., 2); 2 Edward Smith (Sr., 1)  
LB 45 Barrin Simpson (Jr., 2); 44 Jamaal Dinkins (So., 1)  
LB 50 Bert Keys (Sr., 1); 55 Edward Yeates (So., 1)  
CB 24 Kendall Roberson (Jr., 2); 84 Omar Henderson (Jr., 2)  
CB 25 Adesola Badon (Sr., 3); Robert Bean (Jr., 0)  
SS 17 Tim Nelson (Jr., 2); 14 Eugene Clinton (So., 1)  
FS 6 Anthony Derrickicks (Sr., 3); 5 Eric Daniel (Sr., 3)  
P 42 Jeff Walker (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Jackie Sherrill  
Home Field: Scott Field (40,656)

1997 Record (SEC): 7-4 (4-4)  
1998 Prediction: 6th SEC West



**M**arshall had so much fun promoting a player for the Heisman Trophy last year and gained so much exposure from its efforts, it decided to launch a repeat plan this season. The object of the Thundering Herd's affection is junior quarterback Chad Pennington, the trigger man for wide receiver Randy Moss in Moss' Heisman Trophy contending season in

became more productive in the second half of last season and senior Jerrald Long, sophomore Lanier Washington and junior Tyson Hagale showed improvement in spring practice.

"It's a solid corps," Marshall receivers coach Gunter Brewer says. "Very solid. Right now, we just don't have anybody very flashy that will jump out at you. But we've got potential."

While the passing game appears to be in great shape, Marshall will look to rebuild its running game this season.

The Herd's rushing numbers took a dramatic downturn last year, possibly due to the proliferation of the passing attack. Marshall's 137.6-yard average on the ground ranked ninth in the MAC. The bright spot in the running game is the return of leading rusher Doug Chapman. The junior cracked the 1,000-yard mark by 60 yards last season. Llow Turner added 707 yards.

The offensive line will need some patching up in order for the running game to be more effective. Two starters on the left side of the line return in junior tackle Mike Guiliams and senior guard Bert Scarbrough. The Thundering Herd hope senior right tackle Jamie Rodgers can use his imposing size (6-6, 326) to his advantage. Junior Jason Starkey has played every position on the line and is the likely replacement for John Wade at center.

Marshall lost six starters off a defense that ranked third overall in the MAC a year ago. The hardest-hit area was the secondary, where three senior starters and a top backup

exited. The only returnee in the secondary is junior strong safety Rogers Beckett. He was fourth on the team in tackles with 86, intercepted three passes and recovered two fumbles. Sophomore Maurice Hines started a couple of games last year and had a good spring. Senior Damone Williams and sophomore Doug Hodges also will contend for starting positions.

Up front, senior Ricky Hall and junior Giradie Mercer return at nose guard. Hall was fifth on the team in stops in 1997 with 83. Hall and Mercer combined to make 17 tackles for losses..

**39** Junior quarterback Chad Pennington threw for 3,480 yards and 39 touchdowns last season, topping the NFL-bound duo of Peyton Manning and Ryan Leaf. Unfortunately, Pennington's main target, Randy Moss, also went to the NFL.

At linebacker, junior John Grace was the Herd's second-leading tackler from his weak-side position with 104 stops. Junior Andre O'Neal started six games at strong-side linebacker last year. The biggest hole at linebacker is in the middle. Larry McCloud, who led the team with 152 tackles despite missing three games with an injury, has completed his eligibility.

Senior Chris Hanson will handle the Herd's punting job. He will be looking to rebound from a bad season in 1997 when his punting average of 40.1 was more than four yards worse than the year before.

Billy Malashevich is back as placekicker. He made only five of nine attempts in 1997, but he was successful on his final three kicks.



Marshall Univ.

## Chad Pennington

1997. Pennington even has his own website: [www.HerdQB.com](http://www.HerdQB.com).

Pennington fired an NCAA sophomore record 39 touchdown passes last year. That led the nation and tied for the fifth-highest total in NCAA history. Pennington has been a steady performer for Marshall in his two seasons as a starter. In 1995, he passed for 2,445 yards and 15 TDs when the Herd competed in the Division I-AA Southern Conference.

He redshirted in 1996 to allow Florida transfer Eric Kresser to play his senior season as Marshall's quarterback. The year off — and the exploits of Moss — didn't slow Pennington as he passed for 3,480 yards and compiled a pass efficiency rating of 151.9 in 1997.

Despite the loss of Moss to the NFL, Marshall will put a talented corps of receivers on the field.

Senior LaVorn Colclough will become Pennington's top target after catching 74 passes for 946 yards and nine touchdowns in Moss' shadow last year. Junior Nate Poole

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

WR 18 Lavern Colclough (Sr., 3); 82 John Cooper (So., 1)  
 LT 63 Mike Guiliams (Jr., 2); 77 Jimmy Meeks (Fr., 0)  
 LG 65 Bert Scarbrough (Sr., 3); 67 Shaun Saunders (Jr., 1)  
 C 62 Jason Starkey (Jr., 2); 71 Jake Sims (So., 1)  
 RG 72 Jimmy Cabellos (Sr., 1); 69 Irv Dotson (Jr., 1)  
 RT 78 Jamie Rodgers (Sr., 1); 79 Chris Scheuch (So., 1)  
 TE 87 John White (Sr., 3); 81 Larry Smith (So., 1)  
 QB 10 Chad Pennington (Jr., 2); Sean Smith (Fr., 0)  
 RB 22 Doug Chapman (Jr., 2); 32 Llow Turner (Jr., 2)  
 WR 26 Jerrald Long (Sr., 2); 9 Lanier Washington (So., 0)  
 WR 3 Nate Poole (Jr., 1); Eddie Davis (Fr., 0)  
 K 49 Billy Malashevich (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (5)

DE 98 Ron Puggi (Jr., 2); Antony Beckett (So., 0)  
 DT 99 Dwayne Lewis (Jr., 2); Ronnie Bowman (Jr., 1)  
 NG 6 Ricky Hall (Sr., 3); Giradie Mercer (Jr., 2)  
 DE 85 Paul Toviessi (So., 1); Jimmy Parker (So., 1)  
 LB 55 Andre O'Neal (Jr., 2); Eric Pinkerton (Jr., 2)  
 LB 4 John Grace (Jr., 2); George Miller (So., 1)  
 LB 59 Trod Buggs (Fr., 0); Ryan Brockmeyer (Fr., 0)  
 CB 14 Damone Williams (Sr., 3); Michael Owens (Fr., 0)  
 CB 23 Curtis Sanders (So., 0); Doug Hodges (So., 1)  
 SS 42 Rogers Beckett (Jr., 2); Fardan Carter (Fr., 0)  
 FS 1 Maurice Hines (So., 1); Larry Davis (Fr., 0)  
 P 41 Chris Hanson (Sr., 4)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bob Pruett  
 Home Field: Marshall University Stadium (30,000)

1997 Record (MAC): 10-3 (7-1)  
 1998 Prediction: 2nd MAC East



It would be a pleasant story if quarterback Tim Hasselbeck replaced his graduated brother, Matt. However, the school made a commitment to head coach Tom O'Brien when it extended his contract through 2002. For that commitment, Boston College administrators are not interested in family ties, but rather success.

O'Brien is hoping the Eagles' defense can

886 yards and an average of 6.5 per carry. He is not the flashiest runner nor the most talented, but he brings durability. Greg Bartlett, a former linebacker, makes the switch to fullback and packs a wallop as a lead blocker.

Though it's unclear whether Mutryn will be consistent in getting the ball to his receivers, seniors Dennis Harding and Anthony DiCosmo will get open on the outside. Boston College led the Big East in completion percentage (61.8) because the receivers find a way to shake defenders. Harding brings experience (three-year starter), great hands and breakaway speed, and the coaching staff believes DiCosmo will join him as a deep threat. He's superbly talented with the size (6-3, 210 pounds) to manipulate small cornerbacks. The Eagles added some lightning with track star Dajuan Daniels, Indiana's Mr. Football.

The Eagles' offensive line is stocked with big, strong, blue-collar players. Three-year starter Doug Brzezinski anchors the line at left guard. At right tackle is Damien Woody, a versatile force in both the passing and running games. The other starters aren't nearly as accomplished. Sophomore Michael Cook holds the post at left tackle but needs to improve, otherwise the coaches won't hesitate to insert sophomore Paul Zukauskas there. Guard Matt Knapp will take some time to grasp the schemes as he moves from defense. The other guard spot features the twosome of senior Dan Collins and sophomore Paul LaQuerre.

Nose guard Chris Hovan is both the

inspirational and performance leader on the defensive line. Consistency is expected from Andrew Krauzas and Bryan Arndt, both former offensive players still trying to learn defensive coordinator Tim Rose's pressure-packed system. Sophomore Adam Grace, a strong run-stuffer, and junior Mike Willetts, a pass-rushing specialist, look like burgeoning weapons.

Five lettermen at linebacker said their goodbyes, including standout Erik Storz. Junior Brooke Heald displays an ability to read the quarterback and cut off passing lanes. Seniors Brian Maye and Willie Wright, sophomore Steve Martin, who showed some promise as a freshman, and junior Donovan Yarbough, a hard-hitting tackler, provide a solid rotation.

The Eagles' average time of possession, the lowest mark in the Big East.



**Doug Brzezinski**

carry the load until he settles on an offensive leader. If so, the Eagles will be in line for a bowl in December. But that may be a bit too optimistic.

The sentimental choice usually isn't the most logical one. Hasselbeck, a sophomore, is an athletic competitor who will most likely get the nod in 1999, after senior Scott Mutryn moves on. There are games to be played before then, though, and Mutryn is the only one of three candidates (sophomore Dave Robbins is the other) with any game experience. The coaching staff points out Mutryn's capacity to rally the troops in the huddle as one of his attributes. Others are his strength and ability to scramble.

The Eagles signed one of New England's top recruits, Brian St. Pierre, a thrilling athlete who shunned Syracuse and Notre Dame for a chance to play near home.

Two running backs who accounted for 60 percent of the team's rushing return. Senior Mike Cloud led the Eagles in rushing and finished third in the Big East with

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

WR 18 Dennis Harding (Sr., 3); 1 Jermaine Walker (Sr., 1)  
 LT 65 Michael Cook (So., 1); 75 Marc Columbo (Fr., 0)  
 LG 74 Doug Brzezinski (Sr., 3); 79 Matt Knapp (Fr., 0)  
 C 72 Butch Palaza (Jr., 1); 66 Paul Zukauskas (So., 1)  
 RG 73 Dan Collins (Sr., 2); 50 Paul LaQuerre (So., 0)  
 RT 63 Damien Woody (Jr., 2); 62 John Richardson (Fr., 0)  
 TE 16 Rob Tardio (Sr., 1); 82 Robert Ellis (So., 1)  
 QB 12 Scott Mutryn (Sr., 3); 2 Tim Hasselbeck (So., 1)  
 FB 36 Greg Bartlett (Sr., 3); 4 Carlton Rowe (Jr., 2)  
 TB 21 Mike Cloud (Sr., 2); 20 Quinton Lee (Jr., 2)  
 WR 11 Anthony DiCosmo (Sr., 2); 9 Derrick Crittenden (Jr., 2)  
 K 23 John Matich (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (5)

DT 98 Mike Willetts (Jr., 2); 92 Adam Grace (So., 1)  
 NG 95 Chris Hovan (Jr., 2); 86 Bryan Arndt (Jr., 1)  
 DT 47 Andrew Krauzas (Sr., 2); 99 Sean Guthrie (Fr., 0)  
 LB 88 Adam Newman (Jr., 2); 80 Mike Guazzo (Jr., 2)  
 LB 59 Brooke Heald (Jr., 1); 46 Brian Maye (Sr., 3)  
 LB 55 Steve Martin (So., 1); 45 Donovan Yarbough (Jr., 2)  
 LB 13 Willie Wright (Sr., 2); 42 Joe Mickens (Jr., 1)  
 CB 25 D.J. Sutton (So., 1); 5 Mike Bullock (Jr., 1)  
 CB 10 Pat Phelts (Jr., 1); 6 RaMon Johnson (So., 0)  
 SS 40 George White (Jr., 2); 27 Tim Davis (Jr., 2)  
 FS 3 Pedro Cirino (Jr., 2); 8 Jason Smith (So., 1)  
 P 43 Jason Malecki (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Tom O'Brien  
 Home Field: Alumni Stadium (44,500)

1997 Record (Big East): 4-7 (3-4)  
 1998 Prediction: 5th Big East



**T**he good news about Indiana's Hoosiers is they're young and enthusiastic and coachable. That, unfortunately, is also the bad news. Youth brings with it a general lack of strength and experience and missing those things usually adds up to big problems in the Big Ten. While the Hoosiers should be more athletic, talented and quick than a year ago, the

No position has changed more since last season than running back. Jason Spear started at tailback last year and lost his job to De'Wayne Hogan. Spear has switched to fullback, where he'll back up Chris Gall. Gall led the team in receiving with 54 catches for 422 yards. Hogan, who had some injury problems in the spring, ran for 506 yards and four TDs last year and will be the tailback. But Marcus Floyd had an outstanding spring.

The Hoosiers' top receivers last year were running backs, which says something about the wide receiver situation. Cameron was forced to go with freshmen and they played like freshmen. Now sophomores, Tyrone Browning (24 catches, 367 yards) and O.J. Conner (28 catches, 520 yards) are back, but the best news may be the return of sophomore Versie Gaddis, who missed last year with a knee injury. Then, of course, there's Randle El, who may prove to be invaluable at wide receiver, where he's listed as Browning's back up – if he doesn't win the quarterback job.

Junior Randy Maxwell (15 catches, 152 yards), who makes up for a lack of great talent with hard work and unbelievable hands, is back at tight end.

Last year, the Hoosiers were the worst running team in the Big Ten, averaging 90.8 yards per game and a weak 2.6 per carry, and that was with an experienced line. Four starters are gone. Tackle Craig Robeen returns, but will have to introduce himself to the rest of the starters. James Broyles and Jason Stealy should start at guard, with Matt Snyder at center. Junior college transfer Pita Elisara will step in at

the other tackle and may be the Hoosiers' best up front.

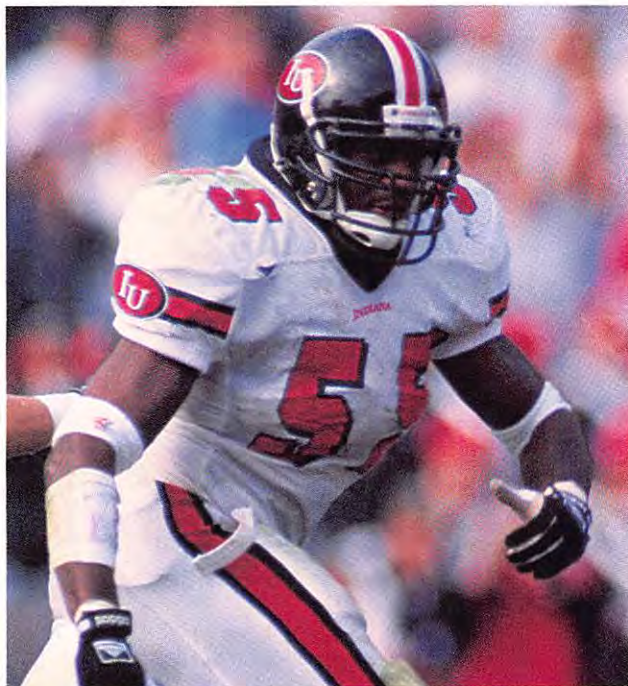
If there is a unit that should be a team strength, the defensive line is it, with first-team All-Big Ten defensive end Adewale Ogunleye heading it up. Aaron Williams at defensive end and Damian Gregory at tackle give the Hoosiers size and strength up front. Paul Mandina worked his way into the first unit in the spring.

At linebacker, Jabar Robinson, one of the few seniors on the squad, has 222 career tackles, including a team-high 101 last year. Everything else is up in the air, but Brad Gecina, Joslin Goodman and Devin Schaffer had good springs, giving Cameron hope that depth is good.

**12.0** Indiana converted only 50-of-172 third-down situations (29.1 percent), while opponents converted 67-of-163 vs. Indiana (41.1 percent). A difference of 12.0.

The secondary is a huge area of concern. If there's good news, it's the competition for four starting spots. O.J. Spencer (two starts last year), Curtis Randle El (43 tackles, two interceptions last year), Justin Smith, Narlin Clancy and Sharrod Wallace will slug it out for the corner spots. Mike McGrath, Patrick Shaw, Brandon Rodgers and Kyle Moffatt are the candidates at the safeties.

Drew Hagan or J.R. Drummond, who spent last year recovering from a broken leg, will punt. Andy Payne won the 1997 kicking job during warmups before the season opener and wound up nailing 15 field goals. Returning kicks is another spot where Antwaan Randle El is likely to show up, along with O.J. Spencer.



Joe Robbins

## Jabar Robinson

chances of improving last year's 2-9 record, 1-7 in the Big Ten, appear slim. Coach Cam Cameron says the only thing fans should expect is "improvement."

"We have more competition for playing time than we've had," Cameron says, "and that's making us better. But how that translates into how good we'll be, I don't have that answer yet."

And there are still plenty of questions left on both offense and defense.

At quarterback, Jay Rodgers started all 11 games last year and four as a freshman. He threw for 2,156 yards and six TDs last season. In most cases that would be enough to ensure keeping the job, but heralded freshman Antwaan Randle El, who practiced but could not play as a partial academic qualifier last year, will fight for the job. Randle El is a quick, mobile, strong-armed athlete who can make plays that defy description. But, with no experience, he can also make mistakes. Cameron will live with the mistakes instead of trying to rein in Randle El's aggressive nature.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

WR	2	Versie Gaddis (So., 1); O.J. Conner (So., 1)
LT		Pita Elisara (Jr., 0); 71 Jeremy Johnson (Jr., 0)
LG	66	James Broyles (So., 1); 76 Nate De Armond (Fr., 0)
C	65	Matt Snyder (Jr., 1); 77 Chad Miller (Jr., 2)
RG	61	Jason Stealy (Jr., 1); 65 Matt Snyder (Jr., 1)
RT	78	Craig Robeen (Jr., 1); 79 Doug Baumgarten (Jr., 0)
TE	84	Randy Maxwell (Jr., 2); 88 Sterling Mintzer (Fr., 0)
FL	23	Tyrone Browning (So., 1); 11 Antwaan Randle El (Fr., 0)
QB	12	Jay Rodgers (Jr., 2); 11 Antwaan Randle El (Fr., 0)
FB	40	Chris Gall (Sr., 3); 28 Jason Spear (Jr., 2)
RB	26	De'Wayne Hogan (So., 1); 24 Marcus Floyd (So., 1)
K	30	Andy Payne (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE	93	Adewale Ogunleye (Jr., 2); 97 Gordon Bramel (So., 1)
DT	73	Paul Mandina (So., 0); 46 Bryan Bobay (Sr., 3)
DT	75	Damian Gregory (Jr., 2); 68 Jason Czap (Jr., 2)
DE	99	Aaron Williams (Sr., 3); 92 Kemp Rasmussen (Fr., 0)
LB	8	Devin Schaffer (Fr., 0); 94 Tony Brown (So., 1)
LB	55	Jabar Robinson (Jr., 3); 58 Brad Gecina (Jr., 1)
LB	18	James Lamar (Jr., 2); 51 Joslin Goodman (So., 1)
CB	9	O.J. Spencer (So., 1); 22 Sharrod Wallace (Fr., 0)
CB	10	Curtis Randle El (Jr., 2); 3 Narlin Clancy (So., 1)
SS	38	Mike McGrath (Jr., 2); 39 Kyle Moffatt (Fr., 0)
FS	6	Patrick Shaw (Jr., 2); 34 Brandon Rodgers (Fr., 0)
P	48	Drew Hagan (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Cam Cameron  
Home Field: Memorial Stadium (52,354)

1997 Record (Big 10): 2-9 (1-7)  
1998 Prediction: 9th Big 10



**H**oping to create a more imposing image, Baylor changed its athletic logo last year, adding a snarling bear with a destructive disposition. Unfortunately, the Bears' on-the-field demeanor more closely resembled Winnie the Pooh.

"We were too soft in too many areas," says second-year Baylor coach Dave Roberts. "To win in this league you have to play defense.

his belt, James appears ready to emerge as a dangerous, multi-faceted weapon.

In late April, Baylor went from extremely deep to relatively thin at running back, when Roberts suspended second-teamers Elijah Burkins (tailback) and Robert Jackson (fullback). Talented reserve tailback Dexter Ford also was among the four players suspended. Roberts declined to discuss the suspensions and the possibility of the players' return in the fall. Without them, fans will cringe every time speedy tailback Darrell Bush and sophomore fullback Derek Lagway are hit hard. Bush led the team with 693 yards rushing despite playing in just nine games. Lagway is an adequate ball carrier and blocker.

Baylor's top two receivers, seniors Derrius Thompson and Morris Anderson, both finished among the top 10 in the conference in receptions per game last season. Baylor does not return a tight end who caught a pass.

One of Baylor's biggest offensive liabilities last season was the inconsistent play of its offensive front, most noticeably in pass protection. Roberts certainly began addressing that problem in the recruiting period, signing two junior college and four high school offensive linemen. All six of those players, particularly junior college transfers Scott Childress and Chris Watton, will receive every opportunity to prove themselves in the fall.

The Bears return three starting offensive linemen from 1997. But those three players — tackles Kelvin Garmon and Derrick Fletcher and center Toby Summers — will be pushed for playing time by newcomers.

The band still played "That Good Ol' Baylor Line" at each game last season though the Bears' defensive line was less than intimidating. Its weekly struggles were the main reason for the team's 110th-place finish nationally in rushing defense.

Junior college transfers Eddrick Brooks, Ronald Smith, Billy Starnes and Tyshaun Whitson are likely to see plenty of playing time in 1998. Baylor's best returning defensive lineman is junior end Charles Foster.

Sophomore middle linebacker Kris Micheaux returns following an outstanding freshman season. Junior Jason Jackson is an adequate returning starter on the outside.

Again, the Bears may receive a significant boost from junior college signees, namely Andre Taylor and Fred Rogers.

437.7

The total offensive yards Baylor opponents averaged in 1997. The Bears yielded an equally alarming 275 rushing yards per game.

Senior free safety Nikia Codie will back up junior strong safety Rodney Smith and senior Kenyada Parker will start at free safety, making the Bears' secondary the strength of the defense entering the fall.

At corner, junior Robert Neal and sophomore Gary Baxter have the talent to augment a solid secondary.

Baylor's kicking game is in excellent shape with the return of juniors Matt Bryant and Kyle Atteberry. Bryant, the accuracy specialist, converted 9-of-12 field goals last year. The strong-legged Atteberry handles kickoff and punting duties.

Atteberry's kickoffs often sail into the end zone, and he averaged more than 42 yards per punt.



Doug Holliman

## Kris Micheaux

We finished 99th (nationally in total defense). That must improve. We also need to make some major improvements offensively. We're slowly climbing the mountain, but we're still a long, long way from the top."

Indeed, Baylor still is a long way from being a serious contender in the Big 12. But, with a ton of returning starters and the addition of an impressive class of junior college signees, there's reason to believe the 1998 Bears will be more grizzly than cuddly.

At quarterback, sophomore Odell James has the physical tools (big body, great arm, quick feet) to take control of any contest.

An incredibly gifted athlete, James was called "the most versatile (high school) quarterback in the country" by the National Recruiting Advisor when he signed with Baylor in 1996. But reconstructive knee surgery sidelined him in '96 and dramatically hindered his development. James saw limited action in five games last year and began to show the raw skills that made him one of the most heralded recruits ever to sign with Baylor. With his first full spring practice under

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

WR 9 Morris Anderson (Sr., 3); 20 Mark Cogdill (Jr., 2)  
 LT 59 Kelvin Garmon (Sr., 3); 52 Greg Jerman (Fr., 0)  
 LG 77 Luke Nichols (So., 1); Mike Love (Jr., 0)  
 C 54 Toby Summers (Jr., 2); 56 Chris Sampy (Sr., 2)  
 RG 76 Carlos Rocha (Jr., 0); Scott Childress (Jr., 0)  
 RT 65 Derrick Fletcher (Sr., 3); 60 Steve York (Fr., 0)  
 TE 44 Don Arroyo (Jr., 2); 89 Andrew Obriotti (Fr., 0)  
 QB 5 Odell James (So., 1); 17 Jermaine Alfred (Jr., 2)  
 FB 4 Derek Lagway (So., 1); 2 Robert Jackson (Jr., 2)  
 TB 6 Darrell Bush (So., 1); 29 Elijah Burkins (Jr., 2)  
 WR 13 Derrius Thompson (Sr., 3); 86 Garner Simpkins (Sr., 2)  
 K 99 Matt Bryant (Jr., 1); 33 Kyle Atteberry (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters

**BOLD** indicates returning starters

NUMBER after class indicates letters won

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 83 Justin Snow (Jr., 2); 42 Clifton Rubin (Sr., 3)  
 DT 82 Dwight Johnson (Jr., 2); 98 Demetrio Phillips (Fr., 0)  
 DT 39 LeTroy Hamilton (Sr., 1); 91 James Calvin (So., 1)  
 DE 48 Charles Foster (Jr., 2); 57 Anthony Williams (Sr., 2)  
 LB 12 McKinley Bowie (So., 1); Fred Rogers (Jr., 0)  
 LB 45 Kris Micheaux (So., 1); 51 Eric Clay (So., 1)  
 LB 55 Jason Jackson (Jr., 2); 41 Leonard Hill (Sr., 1)  
 CB 18 Gary Baxter (So., 1); 19 Allen Pace (Fr., 0)  
 CB 23 Robert Neal (Jr., 1); 4 Daniel Wilturner (Fr., 0)  
 SS 14 Rodney Smith (Sr., 2); 8 Nikia Codie (Sr., 3)  
 FS 37 Kenyada Parker (Sr., 3); 1 Tommie Black (So., 0)  
 P 33 Kyle Atteberry (Jr., 2)

Head Coach: Dave Roberts

Home Field: Floyd Case Stadium (50,000)

1997 Record (Big 12): 2-9 (1-7)

1998 Prediction: 6th Big 12 South



**W**ake Forest returns the most starters in the Atlantic Coast Conference and may be poised for its first winning season since 1992. Coach Jim Caldwell has been methodically stockpiling talent and has been able to red-shirt 48 of 55 players in the last three seasons, including all 17 freshmen last year. With eight starters back from the nation's

push Kane in the team's one-back set.

If running is Wake Forest's weakest link, catching the ball is its strongest. The Deacons return three potential all-star candidates at wide receiver and tight end. At 6-3, 250 pounds, Desmond Clark may be the biggest wide receiver in college football — and one of the best. He uses his size to separate from defenders and run after the catch. Clark was 11th in the country with 6.6 receptions a game.

Junior Jammie Deese also returns as the team's deep threat. In his first full season, he caught 54 balls for 697 yards. William Merritt and Utah transfer Marvin Chalmers provide solid depth, and redshirt freshman John Stone has blazing speed. Senior Joe Zelenka (6-5, 270) returns at tight end after starting 11 games in 1997.

Wake Forest has really beefed up along the offensive front over the last three seasons and now boasts six players who weigh 310 or more. The leaders of the unit are senior Jeff Flowe and 328-pound junior Sam Settar, who played all 804 offensive snaps in 1997. Junior tackle Brian Wolverton also returns to help anchor a line that needs to improve its run blocking. Marlon Curtis will add some athleticism to the center position. Junior Willie Lam should be the other starter at guard. The best backup is 6-7, 341-pound junior Todd Hollowell.

Three starters return to a defensive front that made the greatest one-year improvement against the run in ACC history. Juniors Kelvin Jones, Fred Robbins and Kelvin Shackleford helped limit opponents to 96.1 yards a game on the ground, 10th in

the nation. The Demon Deacons had allowed 254.4 yards on the ground in 1996. Robbins is a force in the middle at 6-5, 312. Although Caldwell will still employ a 4-3 defensive scheme, he has moved Jones from end to tackle and placed former linebackers Matt Petz and Bryan Ray at the ends to provide a pass rush. "We have to get guys up the field and put pressure on the passer," Caldwell says.

**1** That's the number of seasons Wake Forest has finished above .500 in Atlantic Coast Conference games since 1988. The Demon Deacons were 4-3 in the league that season and have been a combined 12-57 in the ACC since.

Linebackers Dustin Lyman, a junior, and senior Kelvin Moses were 1-2 on the team in tackles last season and appear ready for all-star seasons. Mark Makovec is a fifth-year senior who gets his shot to start at the other linebacker spot.

Wake Forest picked off only nine passes last season, but three starters return in the secondary. Seniors Dameon Daniel and Jeffrey Muires, along with junior DaLawn Parrish need to come up with some turnovers and big plays. Junior Reggie Austin, who started one game last year and had two of the nine picks, will be the fourth defensive back.

The Demon Deacons are one of six ACC teams to return both their kicker and punter. Matthew Burdick was 15-of-23 in field goals but only 4-of-10 from 40 or more yards. Redshirt freshman Tyler Ashe has the stronger leg and could push Burdick. Tripp Moore was third in the ACC in punting last season, averaging 41.8 yards.



Richard Carroll

## Brian Kuklick

most improved defense and another nine on offense, a solid year appears likely for a program that has posted only five winning seasons since 1971.

"I've got to believe that our goal is to contend for the ACC championship," senior quarterback Brian Kuklick says.

Kuklick's rifle arm and knowledge of Wake Forest's offense make him one of the more dangerous quarterbacks in the ACC. He had six 250-yard games last year before a hairline fracture in his right leg forced him to miss the final two games. "I don't think everyone in the ACC really appreciates how good Brian Kuklick is," Duke coach Fred Goldsmith says.

The running game has been weak the last four seasons. Last year's average carry of 2.9 yards was the team's best since 1993, but still was eighth in the ACC. Junior Morgan Kane is fast and strong and envisions himself as a scatback, but Caldwell wants more inside running this season from the 220-pounder. Kito Gary, also a junior, averaged 5.3 yards a carry in limited duty and could

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

SE **83 Desmond Clark (Sr., 3)**; 80 William Merritt (Sr., 1)  
LT **72 Jeff Flowe (Sr., 3)**; 71 Alaric Thieshen (So., 0)  
LG 62 Willie Lam (Jr., 1); 68 Chris Blank (So., 1)  
C 78 Marlon Curtis (So., 1); 57 Wilmot Spires (Sr., 0)  
RG **60 Sam Settar (Jr., 2)**; 77 Brian Walls (Jr., 0)  
RT **76 Brian Wolverton (Jr., 2)**; 66 Todd Hollowell (Jr., 0)  
TE **85 Joe Zelenka (Sr., 3)**; 39 James Lik (Jr., 2)  
QB **14 Brian Kuklick (Sr., 3)**; 13 Ben Sankey (Jr., 2)  
FB **42 Wande Shaw (Sr., 3)**; 1 Chris McCoy (So., 0)  
RB **22 Morgan Kane (Jr., 2)**; 8 Kito Gary (Jr., 1)  
FL **21 Jammie Deese (Jr., 2)**; 87 Marvin Chalmers (Jr., 0)  
K **4 Matthew Burdick (Jr., 2)**

### DEFENSE (8)

DE 45 Bryan Ray (So., 1); 64 Brad Smith (Jr., 1)  
DT **54 Kelvin Jones (Jr., 2)**; **90 Fred Robbins (Jr., 2)**  
DT **73 Kelvin Shackleford (Jr., 2)**; 96 D. Mellerson (Jr., 2)  
DE 41 Matt Petz (So., 1); 64 Brad Smith (Jr., 1)  
LB **43 Dustin Lyman (Jr., 2)**; 55 Jon Mannon (Sr., 3)  
LB **49 Kelvin Moses (Sr., 3)**; 34 Abdul Guice (Jr., 2)  
LB 48 Mark Makovec (Sr., 3); 45 Bryan Ray (So., 1)  
CB **24 Dameon Daniel (Sr., 3)**; 36 Keyshorn Smith (So., 1)  
CB 9 Reggie Austin (Jr., 2); 35 Wayne Wright (Sr., 0)  
SS **38 Jeffrey Muires (Sr., 3)**; 20 Mark DeOrio (Fr., 0)  
FS **5 DaLawn Parrish (Jr., 2)**; 28 David Moore (Jr., 2)  
P **18 Tripp Moore (Sr., 2)**

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Jim Caldwell  
Home Field: Groves Stadium (31,500)

1997 Record (ACC): 5-6 (3-5)  
1998 Prediction: 8th ACC



**Y**ou don't hear anyone asking Mike Price what he plans for an encore. But then, the coach who steers Washington State to its first Rose Bowl in 67 years is owed a grace period — plus a healthy raise and an eight-year contract.

Price has all three. What he doesn't have is quarterback Ryan Leaf and 15 other starters from the best team in school history.



David Preston

## Nian Taylor

The Cougars converted the usual skeptics by winning the 1997 Pac-10 title. That faith will be tested as Price tries to rebuild his offense and put together consecutive winning seasons for the first time in his career.

The Cougars have a bowl-friendly schedule — Illinois, Boise State and Idaho to open '97 — but a dramatic lack of experience and the rigors of the Pac-10 could have them running on empty soon enough.

Replacing the irreplaceable Leaf — 3,637 yards passing, 56 percent completion rate — got tougher when heir apparent Steve Birnbaum missed spring practice after surgery to his right knee. His injury opened the door for two rivals, Leaf-sized sophomore Paul Mencke and mobile junior-college transfer Bryan Paul.

Meanwhile, Price has never gushed about a recruit — not Leaf, not Drew Bledsoe — the way he has about Hawaiian prep star Jason Gesser, a Jake Plummer-type.

With eight scholarship running backs, Price is making his usual noise about more

two-back sets, but if anyone is going to replace Michael Black's 1,235 yards it'll be sophomore Kevin Brown, a 220-pound game-breaker who arrives in the fall provided he completes his junior college degree.

WSU's wideouts called themselves the "Fab Five," but only one remains — talented-but-erratic senior Nian Taylor, whose 21 catches accounted for 524 yards and six touchdowns.

Transfer Alexe Rodopolos didn't catch a ball in two years at Iowa, while junior-college import Leaford Hackett caught 70 at L.A. Valley College. All the changes could mean more action for senior tight end Love Jefferson, though his blocking skills will be in demand.

There will be open auditions for the inexperienced line. Only senior tackle Rob Rainville returns, and he was not the most accomplished of the "Fat Five."

Price contends the replacements, including junior guard Ryan Tujague, are stronger and have better physical ability. But there isn't an experienced center in the program, nor is there an identity.

Seniors Mickey Long and Mike Sage need to assert themselves, along with sophomore tackle Reed Raymond.

Replacing three starters along the defensive front will be less traumatic if massive senior tackle Gary Holmes can stay healthy. Likewise, junior Eboni Wilson may be the strongest man on the team, but has never been well enough to make an impact. On the flip side is senior end Jonathan Nance, a great speed rusher who doesn't seem strong enough to handle every-

play pounding.

Senior Taeao Salausa and junior Rob Meier have started for the Cougars at various times, and incoming freshman Ing Aleaga could start sooner than expected.

At linebacker, the Cougars' youth movement really kicks in. Only junior Steve Gleason has any experience. But sophomores James Price and Brad Philley were fierce hitters on special teams, and redshirt freshman Raonall Smith is the most gifted Cougar of all. Another redshirt freshman, Tupo Tuupo, will be given a look in the middle.

**\$19,000**

The money an anonymous patron ponied up to buy 3,800 student tickets to the Stanford game and assure the Cougars their only sell-out of the 1997 season — even with the best team in school history.

Inserting sophomore Lamont Thompson at free safety eight games into last season may not have won WSU the title, but it was a stroke of genius. Junior Torry Hollimon filled in ably in an injury emergency at the other safety, so the concern again is at the corner opposite senior Dee Moronkola, where junior LeJuan Gibbons, unseated in the late-season shakeup, will have to beat out junior college transfer Chris Martin.

Junior Rian Lindell had field goals of 57 and 52 yards and a school-record 56 PATs, but was inconsistent. Kareem Anderson should be the latest in a line of dependable punters gleaned from junior college.

The Cougars will miss the daring of Shawn Tims on punt returns. Taylor is capable of spectacular plays on kickoff returns.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (3)

WR	82 Nian Taylor (Sr., 2); Leaford Hackett (Jr., 0)
LT	79 Rob Rainville (Sr., 2); 75 Jon Ottenbreit (Jr., 2)
LG	74 Ryan Tujague (Jr., 0); 64 Lincoln Walden-Schultz (Jr., 0)
C	72 Mickey Long (Sr., 2); 60 Joe Criscione (Jr., 0)
RG	77 Mike Sage (Sr., 3); 73 Ryan Raymond (So., 0)
RT	70 Reed Raymond (So., 1); 60 Joe Criscione (Jr., 0)
TE	20 Love Jefferson (Sr., 2); 86 Brenden Marshall (Sr., 2)
QB	13 Steve Birnbaum (Jr., 2); 12 Paul Mencke (So., 0)
RB	Kevin Brown (So., 0); 1 DeJuan Gilmore (Jr., 2)
WR	96 Farwan Zubedi (So., 1); 80 Adam Davis (Fr., 0)
WR	89 Alexe Rodopolos (Jr., 0); 94 Troy Woody (Jr., 0)
K	27 Rian Lindell (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (5)

DE	87 Rob Meier (Jr., 2); 51 Austin Matson (So., 1)
DT	95 Gary Holmes (Sr., 3); 92 Nate Mallory (Fr., 0)
DT	96 Taeao Salausa (Sr., 1); 98 Takari Blash (Jr., 0)
DE	99 Jonathan Nance (Sr., 2); 55 Eboni Wilson (Jr., 0)
LB	36 Brad Philley (So., 1); 54 James Price (So., 1)
LB	58 Tupo Tuupo (Fr., 0); 30 Raonall Smith (Fr., 0)
LB	34 Steve Gleason (Jr., 2); 44 Grady Emmerson (Jr., 2)
CB	6 Dee Moronkola (Sr., 3); 28 Jermaine Hunsaker (So., 1)
CB	3 LeJuan Gibbons (Jr., 2); Chris Martin (Jr., 0)
SS	29 Torry Hollimon (Jr., 2); 35 Earl Riley (Jr., 0)
FS	19 Lamont Thompson (So., 1); 40 Jason White (Fr., 0)
P	9 Kareem Anderson (Jr., 0); 27 Rian Lindell (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mike Price  
Home Field: Martin Stadium (37,600)

1997 Record (Pac-10): 10-2 (8-1)  
1998 Prediction: 8th Pac-10



**T**he offense is still trying to catch up to the defense at Vanderbilt just as the Commodores have tried for so long to catch up to the rest of the Southeastern Conference. And until the offense takes some strides forward Vanderbilt will continue to wallow at the bottom of the SEC.

While there is some rebuilding needed on defense, which finished first in the SEC,

McGrath proved to the staff that he was capable of carrying the load alone, and Williams made the switch to cornerback.

Rodney Williams, who bulked up during his redshirt season, expected to step in for the departed Paul Morgan at fullback. But in the new one-back offense, Williams returns to the position for which he was recruited and will push McGrath.

The new offense uses three wide-outs and all three positions are filled with talented, eager receivers. Todd Yoder, an All-Freshman SEC performer two years ago, will start at H-back and be the primary receiver.

Tavarus Hogans came on strong at the end of last season and during the spring and joins Yoder along with Adam Ditto, a talented redshirt freshman, as the starting trio. Tight ends Elliott Carson, a starter the last nine games, and O.J. Fleming both can make catches in a crowd and will be more involved.

The offensive line has been Vanderbilt's most glaring weakness, but Widenhofer made some changes last year with this year in mind. That means the Commodores have four returning starters on the offensive line: Michael Saltsman, Jeff Barnett, Raminte' Byndom and Clay Condney. David Coppeans, who split time starting at left tackle, also returns.

The defensive line has been a strength of the team for many years but both starting ends, Jay Stallworth and Glenn Young, graduated. Russ Nicoll has been waiting for his chance and will likely take over at one end, but the other job is open to a group of untested candidates as well as Alphonso Harvey, who moved from defensive tackle.

Ian Smith, who enjoyed a brilliant pre-season and played well in the first game, missed most of last year with a knee injury. He is back to step in at tackle along with the aggressive Ryan Aulds at nose tackle.

The linebackers were the backbone of the unit that finished as the best in the SEC. They're all gone, and now it's time to rebuild around a trio of youngsters. Junior Lamont Turner saw more action than anyone else last year. He is undersized but quick and aggressive. Reckless redshirt freshman Jamie Winborn hopes to step into the middle. Redshirt freshman Nate Morrow, an impressive athlete, will also start.

**15** That's how many consecutive losing seasons Vanderbilt has endured. In 1982 the Commodores were 8-4 and made their last postseason appearance, a trip to the Hall of Fame Bowl.

The secondary boasts some experience. Left cornerback Fred Vinson is fast but needs to develop cover skills. Jimmy Williams' quick development will be a key, since the defense is based on strong corner play. Free safety Rahim Batten and strong safety Ainsley Battles started every game but will get some pressure from Carter.

Sophomore John Markham battled junior Brett Speakman for the kicking duties last season and that battle continues. Sophomore punter Joe Webb could emerge as one of the best in the SEC after punting for a team that called on his services much too often.

Vanderbilt would like to get Alvin Duke's hands on the ball as much as possible. His speed and quickness show up when he is returning kickoffs and punts. Jimmy Williams will also be deep on kickoffs.



Dwight King

## Jared McGrath

the offense needs to be totally revamped. Optimism lies in young players who appear close to competing on the SEC level.

None of the quarterbacks on the roster has ever taken a snap in a college game after coach Woody Widenhofer moved senior Jamail Carter, who had been the backup for two seasons, to the secondary in the spring.

Hi Lewis, a junior, and Greg Zolman, a redshirt freshman, were recruited because of their strong arms, but neither could unseat Damian Allen last year and might have trouble holding back a trio of highly touted freshmen: Justin Purkey, David Wallace and Sean O'Connor. Going into the fall, Lewis has the edge over Zolman. "I'm open-minded to starting an incoming freshman at quarterback," Widenhofer says.

Tailback Jared McGrath finally gave Commodore fans something to cheer about midway into the season when he unseated fellow freshman Jimmy Williams. McGrath is a hard-nosed runner the Commodores can build around while trying to launch a passing attack. By the end of the season

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

WR	6 Adam Ditto (Fr., 0); 16 Zach Winkler (Jr., 2)
LT	76 Clay Condney (Sr., 3); 71 David Coppeans (Sr., 3)
LG	78 Michael Saltsman (Jr., 2); 64 Brian Gruber (So., 1)
C	50 Jeff Barnett (Jr., 2); 52 Ryan McSwain (So., 1)
RG	60 Pat Green (So., 1); 77 Darren Rothenberg (So., 1)
RT	70 Raminte' Byndom (Jr., 2); 79 Shawn Wilson (Sr., 3)
TE	80 Elliott Carson (So., 1); 84 O.J. Fleming (Sr., 3)
WR	7 Tavarus Hogans (Jr., 2); 86 Andre Woods (So., 1)
QB	13 Hi Lewis (Jr., 2); 12 Greg Zolman (Fr., 0)
HB	81 Todd Yoder (Jr., 2); 3 Billy Miller (Jr., 2)
RB	33 Jared McGrath (So., 1); 20 Rodney Williams (Fr., 0)
K	19 John Markham (So., 1); 38 Brett Speakman (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (5)

DE	92 Alphonso Harvey (Sr., 3); 66 Wally Conyers (Fr., 0)
DT	58 Ian Smith (Sr., 3); 95 Steve Trese (Fr., 0)
NT	98 Ryan Aulds (So., 1); 93 Jason Smith (Sr., 3)
DE	73 Russ Nicoll (So., 2); 63 Doyle Crosby (Fr., 0)
LB	40 Nate Morrow (Fr., 0); 53 Chris Cook (Jr., 2)
LB	43 Jamie Winborn (Fr., 0); 45 Diek VanNort (Jr., 2)
LB	44 Lamont Turner (Jr., 1); 26 Matt Stewart (So., 1)
CB	9 Jimmy Williams (So., 1); 31 Domonick Koger (Sr., 3)
CB	1 Fred Vinson (Sr., 3); 30 Damien Charley (Sr., 3)
SS	22 Ainsley Battles (Jr., 2); 11 Jamail Carter (Jr., 2)
FS	8 Rahim Batten (Sr., 3); 2 Jamie Watkins (Jr., 2)
P	91 Joe Webb (So., 1); 38 Brett Speakman (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Woody Widenhofer

Home Field: Vanderbilt Stadium (41,448)

1997 Record (SEC): 3-8 (0-8)

1998 Prediction: 6th SEC East



**W**ind up the Rockets' offense and watch it go. Toledo was one of the top teams in the MAC last season in rushing offense and total offense.

Headlining the returnees is quarterback Chris Wallace, who shattered 10 school records in his first year as a starter. One of the records to fall was the team's season total offense mark as Wallace led the Rockets to

eye-opening 17.4 yards per catch and scored four touchdowns last season.

Toledo has a nice problem to solve at the running back position.

Dwayne Harris, who ranked second in the MAC in rushing last season, returns this year along with Wasean Tait, who was the top rusher in the MAC in 1995 with 1,905 yards, although Mike Sickles came out of spring drills as No. 2 on the depth chart.

Tait has missed virtually all of the last two seasons after suffering a severe knee injury in the second quarter of the opening game of the 1996 season. He tore the patella tendon and anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee.

Tait was hopeful of coming back last season, but the devastating injury that required four surgeries to repair wouldn't allow it. He was granted a sixth season of eligibility by the NCAA.

How effective Tait can be after the long layoff is the question. His speed and lateral movement are the biggest concerns.

Fortunately for the Rockets, Harris emerged as a top rushing threat in 1997. He gained 1,278 yards and was a key contributor in the Rockets' run to the West Division title. Harris averaged 5.0 yards per rush and scored 10 touchdowns.

Toledo lost three starters on its offensive line but boasts a talented tandem in tackles Colin Westrich and Jim Harding.

The Rockets must find a way to make up for the loss of three all-conference defensive performers: tackle Jason Richards, cornerback Clarence Love and outside linebacker

Marcus Matthews. The linebacker position boasts the most returning experience with Matt Vaillant and Jason Lamar coming back. Vaillant, a team co-captain, led the Rockets in tackles last season with 104, including 10 for losses. Lamar was fifth on the team in stops with 58, 11 of which were for losses.

Experienced junior Keith Travis will start, and Kevin Rollins, who played in all 12 games, will add experience at inside linebacker. Derrick Beckwith returns as a starter as well.

**232**

Toledo quarterback Chris Wallace completed 232 passes for 2,955 yards in 1997. Wallace earned national attention for overcoming club feet to play football.



## Matt Vaillant

5,026 total yards.

Wallace was among the MAC leaders in passing and total offense, and his ratio of 27 touchdown passes to nine interceptions was among the best in the conference. He threw for 200 or more yards in 10 of the Rockets' 12 games and responded with several key throws in crucial situations.

"He had a phenomenal first year at quarterback — as good as any quarterback I've ever been associated with," Toledo coach Gary Pinkel says.

Wallace will have a varied group of receivers in his crosshairs this season. All of his wideouts from last season are back. Split end Brock Kreitzburg was a big-catch receiver for the Rockets. He snared 44 passes for team highs of 626 yards and seven touchdowns in 1997. Flanker Mel Long was one of the top freshmen in the MAC last season, leading Toledo in catches with 47. He should be an even more reliable complement to Kreitzburg this season. The Rockets boast one of the best tight ends in the conference in Mike Bilik. He gained an

Toledo probably can absorb the loss of the talented Love at cornerback because Kelly Herndon and Jameel Turner should excel in the corners. The concern is at the safeties, where inexperienced players will try to plug holes. The free safety position is a critical one in the Rockets' scheme.

Only one starter is back on the defensive line, but the newcomers should have size, speed and athletic ability. Gregg King returns at end, where he was a disruptive force last season. The rest of the linemen have little or no experience.

Chris Merrick returns as the Rockets' placekicker, but he is coming off an inconsistent season. He made 10-of-11 field goals under 29 yards in 1997 and was only 1-of-5 from 30-39 yards.

Punter Gabe Lindstrom made nice improvement throughout last season to finish with a 40.5-yard average. He is expected to increase his average this season.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

WR 84 Brock Kreitzburg (Sr., 3); 2 Simeon Boddie (Fr., 0)  
LT 75 Colin Westrich (Sr., 2); 61 Jeff Ling (So., 0)  
LG 62 Michael Schaefer (So., 1); 63 Jovan Ilich (So., 1)  
C 70 Josh Pierre (So., 0); 69 Nick Otterbacher (Fr., 0)  
RG 78 Greg Peters (Jr., 1); 73 Matt Comer (Fr., 0)  
RT 68 Jim Harding (So., 1); 72 Adam Griffin (Jr., 0)  
TE 94 Mike Bilik (Jr., 1); 89 Isaiah Jackson (Sr., 2)  
QB 7 Chris Wallace (Sr., 1); 17 Dan Cole (So., 0)  
HB 29 Mace Freeman (Sr., 3); 88 Jason Turner (Jr., 1)  
RB 8 Dwayne Harris (Sr., 2); 34 Mike Sickles (Fr., 0)  
FL 80 Mel Long (So., 1); 6 Ray Curry (Sr., 2)  
K 38 Chris Merrick (Jr., 1); 91 Todd Barius (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (5)

DE 47 Gregg King (Sr., 3); 46 Opio Shaah (So., 0)  
DT 92 Jon Cunningham (So., 0); 90 Sameer Hamood (Fr., 0)  
NG 99 Adam Mitoraj (So., 0); 58 Jim Barker (Fr., 0)  
DE 98 Rudy Lomberger (So., 0); 43 DeJuan Goulde (Jr., 0)  
LB 41 Jason Lamar (Jr., 1); 44 Romules Durant (Sr., 3)  
LB 54 Matt Vaillant (Sr., 2); 59 Kevin Rollins (So., 1)  
LB 15 Derrick Beckwith (Sr., 3); 35 Justin Golden (Jr., 2)  
LB 10 Keith Travis (Jr., 2); 33 Paul Sehze (So., 1)  
CB 11 Kelly Herndon (Sr., 3); 20 Marcus Hill (So., 0)  
CB 9 Jameel Turner (Jr., 2); 22 Fabian Burke (So., 1)  
FS 25 Ira Singleton (So., 1); 4 Tajuan Tait (Jr., 0)  
P 49 Gabe Lindstrom (Sr., 1); 93 Scott Martin (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Gary Pinkel  
Home Field: Glass Bowl (26,248)

1997 Record (MAC): 9-3 (7-1)  
1998 Prediction: 1st MAC West



**M**ore than ever before, Cincinnati football is legitimate. Since 1995, the Bearcats have posted three straight winning seasons, and last December's Humanitarian Bowl win versus Utah State, the caper to an 8-4 season.

This from a program that hadn't been bowling since 1950 and had posted only 10 winning seasons from 1968 to 1994.



Steve Woltmann

## Robert Cooper

The man responsible for the rebirth is Rick Minter, who prepares for his fifth campaign with his system in place and Bearcat fans believing. But with the loss of numerous key players and a very daunting schedule, can UC continue the momentum?

"This will be a great test," Minter says. "(But) our program has come as far in the past few years as any other in this league. We look forward to the challenge."

Helping to meet the challenge will be the senior duo of skill player Chad Plummer and fearless free safety/punt returner Tinker Keck. Few tandems anywhere in the nation are as versatile and exciting. Minter is uncertain how best to use Plummer, noting, "We're going to use Chad in a variety of ways. We've got to get him the ball."

Not a true quarterback, Plummer is just competent enough as a signal-caller to justify Minter's using him behind center at times. However, the coach feels sophomore Deontey Kenner could emerge as the key quarterback, thus freeing the wondrously talented Plummer to freelance as an option

quarterback/tailback/H-back/split end.

As for Kenner, he'll play significant minutes and could emerge as the team leader by midseason. "He's eventually going to be a star throwing the football," Minter says.

The 1-2 tailback punch of senior Orlando Smith and junior Robert Cooper is the best in Conference USA. Smith has great vision, while Cooper is faster and a more natural tailback. Throw in Plummer and hard-nosed fullback Eric Beal and Cincy has C-USA's best group of runners. Still, Minter is hoping for better balance.

At receiver, Cornelius Bonner, a senior, and Jason Collins-Baker, a sophomore, form a quality twosome and are expected to combine for more than the 44 catches they totaled last fall. A few more receivers must step up to prove their worth. Junior Jeff Burrow is the only other Bearcat receiver with any experience.

Senior tight end Josh Anderson looks to surpass his 1997 totals of receptions (five) and impressive yards-per-catch average (13.6).

Minter worries about his depleted offensive front. "We're just about starting from scratch on the line," he says. "We won't be near as talented there as we were last season."

The key linemen are senior left tackle Brian Uhl, a former center, and junior right guard Ken Biggs, both returning starters. Look for junior Don Scheithe to line up next to Biggs, with senior guard Vince Byrd on the left. The new center will be sophomore Doug Rosfeld. If injuries take a toll, the lack of depth will become glaring. Junior Bryan Preston, a converted tight end, is the only experienced backup.

On defense, Cincinnati returns an experienced front four. But there is a lack of height at end, where seniors David Jackson, 6-2, and Ted Grubb, 6-3, are expected to start. With few altered passes expected from Grubb/Jackson, who combined for six tackles for losses, a heavy rush will be critical.

At tackle, seniors Percy Evans and Kevin Ward are expected to be above average. Experienced senior Deron Savage can be used in short yardage to clog the middle.

Outside linebacker Hassan Champion will push for first-team all-conference honors and could lead the Bearcats in tackles. The other outside man is expected to be sophomore DeJuan Gossett (only 5-10 and 192 pounds), a former strong safety and ferocious hitter. Minter hopes his speed and heart can overcome his diminutive stature. In the middle, senior Rob Lucas gained some valuable minutes as a backup.

**5min. 48secs.** The average per game advantage in time of possession that Cincinnati held over its opponents in 1997.

Keck is a fine free safety, as his numbers (nine pass breakups, four interceptions and three forced fumbles) suggest. What makes him invaluable, however, is an infectious intensity. Senior Eric Harper replaces Gossett at the strong safety spot. On the corners, senior Shawn Ferguson is a returning starter, while Don McKnight, also a senior, will start after backing up Artrell Hawkins, another major loss.

Keck is the nation's best punt returner. Kenner is expected to be both the punter and holder. Jason Mammarelli and Joe Judge will battle to replace Eric Richards as the kicker.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

WR 84 Cornelius Bonner (Sr., 2); 23 Bob Coppola (So., 0)  
LT 75 Brian Uhl (Sr., 3); 73 Ted Forrest (Fr., 0);  
LG 63 Vince Byrd (Sr., 1); 68 Joe Dixon (Fr., 0)  
C 50 Doug Rosfeld (So., 1); 76 Chris Bell (Jr., 0)  
RG 66 Ken Biggs (Jr., 2); 70 Jason Lisek (So., 0)  
RT 79 Don Scheithe (Jr., 2); 59 Bryan Preston (Jr., 1)  
TE 88 Josh Anderson (Sr., 3); 87 Ashley Hunt (So., 1)  
WR 83 Jason Collins-Baker (So., 1); 8 Jeff Burrow (Jr., 2)  
QB 4 Chad Plummer (Sr., 3); 7 Deontey Kenner (So., 1)  
FB 49 Eric Beal (Jr., 2); 34 David Vitovitz (Jr., 1)  
RB 33 Robert Cooper (Jr., 2); 20 Orlando Smith (Sr., 2)  
K 15 Jason Mammarelli (So., 1); 13 Joe Judge (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 93 David Jackson (Sr., 3); 56 Paul Stephens (Fr., 0)  
DT 92 Percy Evans (Sr., 3); 91 Sedrick Edwards (Jr., 0)  
DT 77 Kevin Ward (Sr., 3); 90 Deron Savage (Sr., 2)  
DE 94 Ted Grubb (Sr., 1); 55 Zach Naszimento (So., 0)  
LB 48 Hassan Champion (Sr., 3); 39 Eddie Johnson (So., 1)  
LB 41 Rob Lucas (Sr., 3); 44 Kwesi Daniels (Jr., 0)  
LB 22 DeJuan Gossett (So., 1); 59 Troy Evans (So., 0)  
CB 40 Shawn Ferguson (Sr., 2); 26 LaVar Glover (Fr., 0)  
CB 19 Don McKnight (Sr., 3); 35 Freddy Smith (So., 1)  
SS 6 Eric Harper (Sr., 1); 42 Carlton Sykes (Jr., 0)  
FS 9 Tinker Keck (Sr., 1); 10 Bobby Fuller (Jr., 0)  
P 7 Deontey Kenner (So., 1); 15 Jason Mammarelli (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Rick Minter  
Home Field: Nippert Stadium (35,000)

1997 Record (C-USA): 8-4 (2-4)  
1998 Prediction: 4th Conference USA



**T**here were plenty of good intentions last season, but nothing could help first-year Illinois coach Ron Turner. Perhaps the only good thing that happened was that the dismal season finally came to an end. As he embarks on a new year, Turner does not figure the team's record will get out of the red; the Illini were 0-11 last season and are riding a 17-game losing streak.



David Preston

## Danny Clark

But Turner's players are convinced the winning will come, and their confidence is bolstered by the fact that 18 players with starting experience return, including two whose seasons ended prematurely.

Now that Illinois' all-time leading rusher, Robert Holcombe, is gone, the Illini will have to rely on a more diverse offense that will involve the receivers and tight ends. That means they'll need an efficient quarterback. Senior Mark Hoekstra is the logical choice, based more on his experience than his lofty numbers. Hoekstra started five games last season, including the last two, and threw five touchdowns but twice as many interceptions. Junior Kirk Johnson had one start a year ago. Turner, a quarterbacks coach much of his coaching career, was disgusted with the play at this position a year ago. If he doesn't see improvement early, he may turn to one of two freshmen, Kurt Kitner or Walter Young.

With Holcombe's departure, the Illini no longer will be exclusively a running team. That doesn't mean they won't run the ball,

but don't expect to see any player carry 27 times a game like Holcombe did. Junior Steve Havard will step into the starting role. He didn't see much playing time last season but is a receiving threat out of the backfield. The Illini have moved two linebackers to fullback, the most recent being Chris Hoffman. Eric Garrett made the move during preseason practice a year ago and started four games.

Four receivers return, all of whom made starts in '97. Junior Lenny Willis started 10 games and posted 33 catches. Senior Rob Majoy finished last season as a starter and should make an impact this year. Junior college transfer Terrance Smalls has big-play potential and 4.4 speed, exactly what Turner was looking for. Smalls will be featured early and often. Sophomore tight end Josh Whitman started four games and had nine receptions.

Four offensive line starters return, including senior twins Ryan and Tom Schau, and the line should be a team strength. Tom Schau's return at center is most significant, since he missed the final eight games of the 1997 season with a broken ankle. Sophomore tackle Marques Sullivan and sophomore guard Ray Redziniak gained valuable experience last year, and off-season strength training should benefit both. To balance the line, Turner brought in beefy juco transfer Matt Carlton, who at 6-6, 327 pounds is strong and fast and likely will start at guard.

There are returning starters at every position on defense. Depth and experience are the name of the game in the front four, since the Illini rotated so many young play-

ers. Leading the way is senior tackle Garrett Johnson, a three-year starter who had 43 tackles last season. Junior Mike McGee returns at the other tackle. On the ends will be seniors Ryan Murphy and Jeff Weisse, but that position will see improvement with the return of junior Rameel Connor, who missed the final nine games last season with a knee injury. Turner considers Connor the Illini's top defensive lineman.

Illinois has two active outside linebackers in junior Danny Clark and sophomore Mike Young, both of whom started every game a year ago. Clark has tremendous instincts and logged a 20-tackle game against Northwestern. Senior Eric Guenther split time in the middle last season and had 54 tackles, third-best on the team.

17

Illinois' losing streak that dates back to Oct. 12, 1996. The Illini were 0-11 last season, the worst record in school history. Their last victory? A 46-43 overtime win over Indiana on Oct. 5, 1996.

More consistency is called for in the secondary. A lot of players saw action last season, so Turner will have some depth to work with. Juniors Carlos McLaurin and Tony Francis are the corners and senior Steve Willis and sophomore Bobby Jackson return at safety. Junior Ivan Benson had two interceptions against Washington State quarterback Ryan Leaf, and he'll be a factor.

Junior placekicker Neil Rackers is coming off a so-so season, and the punting job just might belong to freshman Steve Fitts. Havard likely will handle a good deal of the kick returns with Majoy and Benson sharing the punt return duties.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

SE	22 Rob Majoy (Sr., 3); 4 Terrance Smalls (Jr., 0)
LT	60 Ryan Schau (Sr., 3); 78 Jay Kulaga (Fr., 0)
LG	70 Matt Carlton (Jr., 0); 67 J.P. Machado (Sr., 2)
C	62 Tom Schau (Sr., 3); James Brown (Fr., 0)
RG	69 Ray Redziniak (So., 1); 75 Chip Nicastro (Jr., 0)
RT	59 Marques Sullivan (So., 1); 64 Mike Flaar (Jr., 1)
TE	87 Josh Whitman (So., 1); 88 Mike Cracioniou (So., 0)
FL	21 Lenny Willis (Jr., 2); William Loyd (Jr., 0)
QB	11 Mark Hoekstra (Sr., 2); 9 Kirk Johnson (Jr., 0)
FB	20 Eric Garrett (So., 1); 49 Chris Hoffman (Jr., 2)
RB	38 Steve Havard (Jr., 2); Antonio Harris (Fr., 0)
K	98 Neil Rackers (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (11)

LE	53 Jeff Weisse (Sr., 3); 92 Karleton Thomas (So., 1)
LT	66 Garrett Johnson (Sr., 3); 73 Joe Lauzen (Sr., 1)
RT	85 Mike McGee (Jr., 2); 97 Jason Eberhart (So., 1)
RE	56 Ryan Murphy (Sr., 3); Rameel Connor (Jr., 1)
OLB	52 Mike Young (So., 1); 30 Robert Franklin (So., 1)
MLB	41 Eric Guenther (Sr., 3); 45 Manuel Strong (Jr., 2)
OLB	48 Danny Clark (Jr., 2); 49 Chris Hoffman (Jr., 2)
CB	8 Carlos McLaurin (Jr., 1); Johnny Rogers (Jr., 0)
CB	33 Tony Francis (Jr., 2); Johnnie Harris (Jr., 0)
SS	2 Bobby Jackson (So., 1); 24 Asim Pleas (Jr., 1)
FS	19 Steve Willis (Sr., 3); 27 Ivan Benson (Jr., 2)
P	98 Neil Rackers (Jr., 2); Brent Peterson (Fr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Ron Turner

Home Field: Memorial Stadium (70,904)

1997 Record: (Big Ten) 0-11 (0-8)

1998 Prediction: 10th Big Ten



**H**e's not as popular in Pittsburgh as Steeler coach Bill Cowher or quarterback Kordell Stewart, but these days, Pittsburgh Panthers coach Walt Harris may not be as far behind as one would think. In his first year at the helm of the club, Harris led the Panthers to a 6-5 record and a Liberty Bowl berth.

But before Panthers fans anoint Harris

2657 yards, 30 TDs), which were certainly aided by a seven-touchdown day in a thrilling 55-48 double-overtime win over Rutgers. But then again, when working with Harris, anything is possible.

Kevan Barlow, who gained only 108 yards last season, is the only returning tailback with any experience. Tony Thompson is an above-average blocking fullback, but don't expect anything more than short yardage from him.

One-half of last year's spectacular receiving duo, Jake Hoffart, has moved on, but the other half, senior Terry Murphy, is still around. Murphy was one of the team's most pleasant surprises, hauling in 46 balls for 873 yards and a team-record 13 touchdowns, including one off a flea-flicker against Notre Dame. His 19 yards-per-catch average was eye-opening.


Others who will also run pass routes are Andy Molinaro, who caught nine balls, and Ramel Johnson, who caught three. Tight end belongs to smallish 6-1 senior Juan Williams.

Senior center Andrew Grischow and junior right tackle Ethan Weidle are returning starters on the offensive line. Senior Mike Schultz started in three spots last year while Justin Wade filled in at tackle. Harris has no experienced guards on the roster and may need to pluck someone off his 1998 recruiting list.

Junior defensive end Julian Graham and senior end Marlin Young will anchor the defensive line, but both must improve their run-stuffing and their pass rush for the Panthers to have any chance of stopping their

opponents. Tackle Jeff McCurley, a 6-4, 250-pound sophomore, showed speed in getting to ball carriers last year.

Harris is hoping that last year's linebacking understudies — Bryan Jacobs, Karim Thompson and Ken Kashubara — will be better than the men they played behind last year. Those three will team with the lone returning starter, senior Phillip Clarke, to form the nucleus of this inexperienced linebacking corps.

 The number of bowl wins Pittsburgh has in the 1990s. The Panthers were 3-3 in bowls during the 1980s.

The secondary was the Panthers' strength last season. Free safety John Jenkins intercepted three passes, including a Ryan Clement throw with 1:25 remaining to secure a 21-17 nationally-televised upset of Miami. Jenkins and strong safety Curtis McGhee graduated, but sophomores Seth Hornack and D.J. Dinkins are more than capable of filling the vacancies in the deep zones.

Seniors Chuck Brown and Tray Crayton return at the corners in what should again be the Panthers' top unit defensively.

After not having many chances to kick in his first three seasons, Chris Ferencik was second on the team in scoring with 50 points (6-of-9 on field goals, 32-of-38 on extra points) last year.

The leading candidate for punter is junior Greg DeBolt, but the team will decide on a punter in the fall.

Hank Poteat was second on the team in both punt and kick returns last season and may handle both duties this fall.



Dwight King

## Terry Murphy

the second coming of Chuck Noll, consider this: several starters have graduated, including five players who gained All-Big East honors a year ago.

Thus, Harris will probably have to perform miracles for the second year in a row. Seven home games, including a season-opening tilt with I-AA Villanova and matchups with Akron, Rutgers and Temple will help the Panthers' cause, but the loss of talent, particularly from an explosive offense, will be tough for them to overcome.

Harris may have the finest reputation in the country for developing quarterbacks, but no one could have expected Pete Gonzalez to go from spot starter to second-team All-Big East last season.

Unfortunately, Gonzalez is now out of eligibility, meaning that 6-4 senior Matt Lytle will get a chance to reclaim his old job. He completed 105-of-214 passes for 1,249 yards and eight touchdowns in 1996, and he'll be hard-pressed to approach Gonzalez's numbers (198-345,

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

SE 82 Andy Molinaro (Jr., 2); 6 Ramel Johnson (So., 1)  
 LT 78 Justin Wade (Jr., 2); 67 Mike Bosnic (Fr., 0)  
 LG 59 Jason Dugger (Jr., 0); 73 Mark Browne (Jr., 0)  
 C 54 Andrew Grischow (Sr., 2); Chad Reed (Fr., 0)  
 RG 71 Mike Schultz (Sr., 3); Dan Cornelius (Jr., 0)  
 RT 61 Ethan Weidle (Jr., 2); 76 Ryan Hansen (Jr., 0)  
 TE 84 Juan Williams (Sr., 1); 93 Ben Kopp (Jr., 2)  
 QB 8 Matt Lytle (Sr., 3); 12 Tony Zimmerman (So., 1)  
 FB 36 Tony Thompson (So., 1); 32 Chris Schneider (Sr., 3)  
 RB 43 Kevan Barlow (So., 1); 24 Nick Goings (So., 0)  
 WR 81 Terry Murphy (Sr., 1); 80 Jackie Womack (Jr., 0)  
 K 37 Chris Ferencik (Sr., 3); 16 Paul Ruzila (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 45 Julian Graham (Jr., 2); 98 Joe Conlin (Fr., 0)  
 DT 90 Jeff McCurley (So., 1); 62 Kenny Pegram (Sr., 3)  
 DT 94 Demond Gibson (Jr., 2); 91 Nigel Neal (Jr., 0)  
 DE 92 Marlin Young (Sr., 3); 50 Trey McCray (Jr., 1)  
 LB 53 Ken Kashubara (Jr., 2); 22 Karim Thompson (Jr., 2)  
 LB 95 Phil Clarke (Sr., 3); 63 Larry Bell (So., 0)  
 LB 52 Bryan Jacobs (So., 1); 39 Nick Cole (Fr., 0)  
 CB 4 Chuck Brown (Sr., 3); 21 Chiffon Allen (Jr., 1)  
 CB 7 Tray Crayton (Sr., 1); 31 Hank Poteat (Jr., 2)  
 SS 26 Seth Hornack (Jr., 2); 48 Joe Holland (Sr., 1)  
 FS 1 D.J. Dinkins (Jr., 2); 27 Kenny Harris (Fr., 0)  
 P 16 Greg DeBolt (Jr., 0); 4 George Radu (Fr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Walt Harris  
 Home Field: Pitt Stadium (56,150)

1997 Record (Big East): 6-5 (4-3)  
 1998 Prediction: 6th Big East



California's 15 returning starters should be enough to give the Bears their first winning season since 1993 and perhaps a bowl berth. But if they get overwhelmed in their Sept. 12 game against Nebraska, the team's fragile ego may be destroyed. "We need to win a close game early," says coach Tom Holmoe.

The defense, with eight returning starters

leader, will hurt, and the Bears will probably have to start a true freshman, either Mike Ainsworth or Ronnie Davenport. There is star potential in Dameane Douglas, who will move over to the featured flanker spot occupied by Shaw in the West Coast offense. The Bears still lack a dependable, speedy receiver who can stretch the defense.

Cal will use the tight end more this season, and Corey Smith is the reason why. Sidelined with injuries and forced to redshirt last year, Smith has the look of something special.

Though not overpowering, the Bears' offensive line should be adequate. They are certainly big enough; all five starters will weigh more than 300 pounds. Guard Yaeger Williams and tackle John Welbourn have experience, and Reed Diehl, a converted tight end, may replace Newberry at center. Langston Walker, a 6-8 redshirt freshman, could start at tackle, and Kevin Swillis and John Romero are candidates for the other guard. Pass protection remains a concern; Cal gave up 35.5 sacks last season.

Despite the loss of its best defensive lineman, Brandon Whiting, Cal's defensive front seven should be strong. The nose tackle spot is a concern, but if either junior college transfer Kasey Jackson or 305-pound

Rashawn Davis comes through, the Bears will be tough to run against.

End Carter, son of former NFL star Rubin Carter, may become a star himself this year. Mawuko Tugbenyoh and John McLaughlin provide a one-two punch at the rush-end position. Jerry DeLoach is big enough and quick enough at the tackle spot.

The linebackers are a solid bunch that could become dominant. Beck, though a bit undersized, is among the Pac-10's best inside linebackers after getting 21 tackles for losses last season. Beck should be helped by the return of Keith Miller, who was lost for the season because of a knee injury. He's an old-school linebacker who will compete with Nate Geldermann. Sekou Sanyika has big-play potential at outside linebacker, but, as is the case up front, the Bears lack that one mean, punishing presence.

The secondary should be improved over last year's, which yielded numerous big plays and intercepted just four passes. To counter a lack of speed among defensive backs, Cal has moved Deltha O'Neal to cornerback hoping he can become a starter. He's fast, as is Drae Harris, who sat out last season with a hernia. Derrick Gardner is a returning starter at cornerback who will have to fight to keep his job. Sophomore Chidi Iwuoma is the fourth candidate.

44

The big play doomed Cal last year. The Bears gave up 44 plays of 25 yards or more, with 22 of those resulting in touchdowns. Cal yielded 45 touchdowns in all.

Marquis Smith returns as a tall, hard-hitting free safety. Starter Peter DeStefano is back at strong safety.

Punter Nick Harris is inconsistent but adequate and O'Neal is a speedy kick returner. The problem is the placekicking. Neither Ignacio Brache nor Tim Wolleck panned out last season, combining to make just 7-of-12 field-goal attempts and 24-of-31 PATs. Holmoe didn't sign any kickers, but he's going to encourage students to walk on with a chance to win the kicking job.



Peter Branstetter

## Marcus Fields

including linebacker Matt Beck and defensive end Andre Carter, will be improved. The losses of wide receiver Bobby Shaw and center Jeremy Newberry do leave holes.

Quarterback Justin Vedder had impressive numbers but never developed a presence in the pocket. The Bears may go to the shotgun and have Vedder roll out more to stabilize him. "Sometimes I felt pressure when there was none," Vedder says.

Vedder's best asset is his leadership. If Cal depends on his passing to win games, as it did last season, the Bears are in trouble.

Cal is putting its rushing hopes on sophomore tailback Marcus Fields, who can run tough inside. He may not have break-away potential, but he consistently gains positive yardage.

The second tailback this year may be freshman Saleem Muhammad, with the small, fleet Brandon Willis being used only in certain situations. Joshua White is a solid fullback, able to block, get the tough inside yardage and catch short passes.

The loss of Shaw, Cal's all-time receiving

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

WR 5 Dameane Douglas (Sr., 3); 6 Joel Young (Jr., 1)  
LT 64 John Welbourn (Sr., 3); 71 Kevin Doherty (Jr., 1)  
LG 75 Kevin Swillis (Sr., 3); 73 John Romero (Jr., 1)  
C 60 Reed Diehl (So., 1); 63 Caleb Brown (Sr., 2)  
RG 56 Yaeger Williams (Sr., 2); 76 Tate McCallister (Sr., 3)  
RT 66 Langston Walker (Fr., 0); 70 Jeff Martin (Jr., 1)  
TE 32 Corey Smith (Fr., 0); 87 Brian Surgener (So., 1)  
WR Mike Ainsworth (Fr., 0); 88 Phillip Pipersburg (So., 1)  
QB 10 Justin Vedder (Sr., 1); 17 Ryan Tollner (Sr., 1)  
FB 40 Joshua White (Jr., 0); 46 Mike Freeman (Sr., 1)  
TB 4 Marcus Fields (So., 1); Saleem Muhammad (Fr., 0)  
K 27 Ignacio Brache (So., 1); 29 Tim Wolleck (Sr., 0)

### DEFENSE (8)

DE 58 Mawuko Tugbenyoh (Jr., 2); 33 John McLaughlin (Sr., 1)  
NT 90 Rashawn Davis (So., 1); 55 Kasey Jackson (Jr., 0)  
DT 98 Jerry DeLoach (Jr., 2); 94 Jacob Waasdorp (So., 1)  
DE 97 Andre Carter (So., 1); 95 Jeremiah Parker (Jr., 2)  
OLB 13 Sekou Sanyika (Jr., 2); 49 Scott Fujita (Jr., 0)  
ILB 59 Matt Beck (Jr., 2); 50 Fa'avae Fa'avae (Jr., 1)  
ILB 99 Nate Geldermann (So., 1); 53 Keith Miller (Jr., 0)  
CB 31 Derrick Gardner (Sr., 3); 8 Deltha O'Neal (Jr., 2)  
CB 25 Chidi Iwuoma (So., 1); 11 Drae Harris (Jr., 0)  
SS 20 Peter DeStefano (Jr., 2); 7 Don Lonon (Jr., 2)  
FS 9 Marquis Smith (Sr., 3); 1 David Burnside (Sr., 2)  
P 89 Nick Harris (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Tom Holmoe

Home Field: Memorial Stadium (74,909)

1997 Record (Pac-10): 3-8 (1-7)

1998 Prediction: 9th Pac-10



**T**wo years ago, Ohio senior quarterback Kareem Wilson was the Mid-American Conference's Offensive Player of the Year. This season, he might become one of the Bobcats' starting halfbacks in their triple-option offense. The Bobcats experimented during the spring with Wilson at the running back position in a move designed to beef up the MAC's low-

Orlando was Wilson's backup the last two years. No decision on a possible change will be made until the fall.

If Wilson stays at quarterback, the Bobcats' running back positions are still well-stocked. Senior fullback Steve Hookfin ranks third on the school's all-time rushing list. He gained 864 yards last year after leading the team as a sophomore with 1,125 yards.

"Hook had another outstanding season (in 1997)," Grobe says. "He's one of the most talented runners in the MAC."

Senior Riz Buckman started six games at one halfback position last year, rushing for more than 100 yards in a game twice. Senior Ewane Nanji was the starter at the other halfback spot, but he has been moved to strong safety this year. Sophomore Raynald Ray and redshirt freshman Jamel Patterson will battle for the starting job. Patterson gained 2,700 yards and scored 36 touchdowns during his senior year in high school.

Ohio's running game should be boosted by the return of four offensive linemen with starting experience and all of the backups. The players who have posted starts include Mike Solominsky, a senior, junior center Mike Varone and senior

guards Wolfgang Kratzenberg and Brian Dennehy, who started the first two games of the season before a knee injury knocked him out of action for the year.

The Bobcats had one of the top defenses in the nation last season, and eight starters return from the group. The biggest need area is the secondary, where two of its top

players graduated. But senior free safety Dennis Fitzgerald returns after leading Ohio in tackles last season with 105. He also was second in interceptions with three. Senior Mark Stubbs is a three-year starter at cornerback.

After starting three games last season, the Bobcats think junior Leigh Barbour can have a good season at outside linebacker as a replacement for All-MAC performer Andre Jackson. Senior Rahim Slaise is a big player (6-6, 240) with good speed at the other outside position.

**1968**

Ohio University placed second in the MAC East Division last season with a 6-2 mark. The team posted an overall record of 8-3. The last time the Bobcats posted a better record was in 1968. That team went 10-1 and played in the Tangerine Bowl.

Inside linebacker is a position of good depth for the Bobcats. Senior Tom Carder had a strong 1997 despite some injuries, and juniors Troy Sands and Mark Calgaro shared one inside spot last year.

All three starters are back on the defensive line. Senior Geno Walsh is a two-year starter at nose guard and senior Jeremy Beutler and junior John Kraus are the ends. Walsh and Beutler are among seven seniors starting on defense.

Placekicker Brian Huston made a 56-yard field goal against Bowling Green last year. He had better success on long kicks than he did on short ones, going 5-for-8 from 40 yards and beyond but only 2-for-5 from under 40. Two-year punter Jon Beier is gone; the job will go to redshirt freshman Dave Zastudil.



Ohio Univ.

## Kareem Wilson

est-ranked passing attack. Wilson is an outstanding runner, evidenced by his 1996 production of 1,072 yards and 14 touchdowns on the ground.

He didn't quite reach those standards last season but still chalked up 834 yards and 12 touchdowns as Ohio broke its school single-season rushing record. Wilson is second in school history in career rushing with 2,799 yards, within easy reach of the mark of 2,995 by Tim Curtis.

Ohio doesn't throw much (58 passes last year compared to 649 rushing attempts), but when it has gone to the air in the Wilson era at quarterback it hasn't achieved much success. Wilson completed just 14-of-54 passes for 369 yards and three touchdowns in 1997. The leading receiver was Damion Maxwell with seven catches.

Recognizing a need to improve the passing attack, head coach Jim Grobe took a look at other quarterbacks during spring practice. Senior Mike Orlando, sophomore David Murphy and redshirt freshman Tony Macon all worked out at the position.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

SE 9 Damion Maxwell (Sr., 3); 81 Keith Betz (Sr., 3)  
 LT 62 Jon Goodwin (So., 1); 66 Cleodous Hawk (Fr., 0)  
 LG 65 Brian Fortman (Sr., 3); 61 Brian Dennehy (Sr., 3)  
 C 50 Mike Varone (Jr., 2); 74 Zach Holt (So., 1)  
 RG 79 Mike Solominsky (Sr., 3); 69 W. Kratzenberg (Sr., 3)  
 RT 56 Steve Gaydosz (Jr., 2); 76 Donovan Workman (Jr., 2)  
 TE 86 Drew Dwyer (Jr., 2); 96 Nick Daniel (So., 1)  
 QB 14 Kareem Wilson (Sr., 3); 16 Mike Orlando (Sr., 2)  
 FB 39 Steve Hookfin (Sr., 3); 7 Sid Hall (Sr., 3)  
 HB 36 Riz Buckman (Sr., 3); 6 Mareion Royster (Fr., 0)  
 HB 47 Raynald Ray (So., 1); 34 Jamel Patterson (Fr., 0)  
 K 25 Brian Huston (Sr., 3)

### DEFENSE (8)

DE 91 John Kraus (Jr., 1); 97 Mike Fox (Fr., 0)  
 NG 57 Geno Walsh (Sr., 3); 64 Damion Washington (So., 1)  
 DE 95 Jeremy Beutler (Sr., 3); 99 Steve Collins (Jr., 2)  
 LB 88 Rahim Slaise (Sr., 3); 55 Ryan Baxter (Sr., 1)  
 LB 51 Leigh Barbour (Jr., 2); 90 Scott Paradis (Jr., 2)  
 LB 42 Troy Sands (Jr., 2); 44 Mike Calgaro (Jr., 2)  
 LB 40 Tom Carder (Sr., 3); 48 David Swenson (Jr., 2)  
 CB 31 Donnie White (So., 1); 21 Lance Fields (Jr., 1)  
 CB 28 Mark Stubbs (Sr., 3); 37 Adam Hill (So., 0)  
 SS 13 Nick Toth (Sr., 3); 29 Ewane Nanji (Sr., 3)  
 FS 32 Dennis Fitzgerald (Sr., 3); 8 Duffer Duffy (So., 1)  
 P 19 Dave Zastudil (Fr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Jim Grobe  
 Home Field: Peden Stadium (20,000)

1997 Record (MAC): 8-3 (6-2)  
 1998 Prediction: 3rd MAC East



**D**avid Lee is talking crazy. After Rice ranked second in the country to Nebraska in rushing last season, the Owls' offensive coordinator wants to start throwing the football.

"Our complexion has changed," Lee says. Not that Lee is abandoning the spread option scheme, the Owls' trademark and a key component in the school's first consec-

utive seven-win campaigns since 1960-61. Lee worries about the loss of fullback Benji Wood, who ran for 936 yards at a position critical to the option offense. Clint Leschber could be adequate, pushed by redshirt Jamie Tyler. At H-back, Keilone Gordon has the first shot. Gordon could be spelled by redshirt Derek Gary or incoming Justin Engler, a two-way all-state standout from Denton, Texas.

Wide receiver is a one-man job at Rice. Jason Blackwell was responsible for 56 percent of the Owls' 25 receptions last season and should benefit from more capable passers. Matt Webber will also contribute.

Tight end is mostly a blocking position and currently a question mark. The top two players graduated, leaving redshirt freshman Brandy Manning as the prime candidate.

On the offensive line, right guard Charles Torello is always asking the coaches to run Rice's favorite play, the "Counter-Iso," behind him. They usually are glad to accommodate him. Neal Gray is an effective trap-blocker at the other guard position. Mike Vietor and Matt Baldwin will again share the center duties. Rod Beavan, who missed most of last season with ankle and shoulder injuries, will likely play at one tackle spot. Aaron Sandoval, who started in

Beavan's place at the end of the year, will have a shot at a permanent job.

Rice has difficulty recruiting big, talented defensive linemen. The Owls can only hope that they grow into the position while developing enough players to rotate them and keep everybody fresh. The likely top four starts with nose guard Judd Smith, an

active player who made 11 tackles for losses. Tackle Andrew Hughes will join ends Terrence Melton and Julian Duncan to give Rice three seniors on the front four, but they will have to become more productive than last year, when Rice allowed 180 rushing yards per game.

**O** With Rice averaging 332 rushing yards a game last season, coach Ken Hatfield said he could picture a game with zero passing attempts. The Owls actually tried about six passes a game, a number certain to increase this season.

Linebacker is solid for the Owls.

Once Rashad Reynolds became more willing to react instead of thinking everything through, he became a force at inside linebacker with 15 tackles for loss. Another senior, Thomas Benford, is also disruptive. The outside linebacker is Larry Ruffin.

LaDoughyous McCalla, a senior cornerback, collected five interceptions last season, a few of them at critical moments. At the other corner, Adrian Sadler was up and down. Injuries resulted in regular personnel changes at one safety position, where LonDee Smith, Karlon Bedford and Jason Hebert are competing. Travis Ortega returns at the other safety, but nobody other than McCalla is guaranteed anything after Rice gave up 383 total yards a game.

Junior Scott Grimes handles all of Rice's kicking, but not spectacularly. He averaged just under 40 yards a punt. Grimes kicked a 45-yard field goal, so it was disturbing when he missed seven extra points. Rice's return game is impressive, with McCalla racing back an 84-yard punt return against TCU and Perry averaging 22 yards on kickoff returns.



Joe Robbins

## Michael Perry

He's just hoping the Owls can make opposing defenses conscious of the pass; in 1997 they had only 25 completions in 11 games.

With the 21st century looming, Rice continues to make its 1961 T-Bird of an offense purr in a Lexus world. But with fullback Benji Wood and quarterback Chad Nelson gone, the Owls will try to toy with the pistons without losing horsepower.

Nelson was the master of Rice's option game, rushing for nearly 1,000 yards as a senior and providing the pitches for Michael Perry's 1,000-yard season.

The Owls will turn to Jeremy Bates, a Tennessee transfer who backed up Nelson, and Chad Richardson, who has returned from running back after winning in all three starts as a freshman. They can run — although maybe not like Nelson — and their passing abilities excite Lee.

Perry was the WAC's only rusher to average 100 yards a game last season, topping 1,000 yards at A-back while missing one contest.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

WR 80 Jason Blackwell (Sr., 3); 6 Matt Webber (Fr., 0)  
 LT 66 Rod Beavan (So., 1); 76 Anthony Mowry (Fr., 0)  
 LG 60 Neal Gray (Jr., 2); 65 Heath Fowler (Fr., 0)  
 C 52 Mike Vietor (Sr., 3); 67 Matt Baldwin (Jr., 2)  
 RG 62 Charles Torello (Sr., 3); 55 Chris Bryant (Fr., 0)  
 RT 73 Aaron Sandoval (So., 0); 78 Shan Jackson (Jr., 2)  
 TE 86 Brandy Manning (Fr., 0); 91 Aaron Bassett (Fr., 0)  
 QB 4 Jeremy Bates (Jr., 1); 5 Chad Richardson (Jr., 2)  
 FB 18 Clint Leschber (Jr., 2); 37 Jamie Tyler (Fr., 0)  
 RB 8 Michael Perry (Sr., 3); 2 Anthony Griffin (So., 1)  
 RB 23 Keilone Gordon (Sr., 3); 21 Derek Gary (Fr., 0)  
 K 10 Scott Grimes (Jr., 2); 12 Derek Crabtree (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (9)

DE 87 Terrence Melton (Sr., 3); 56 Clint Johnson (Fr., 0)  
 DT 97 Andrew Hughes (Sr., 3); 54 Jake Jackson (So., 1)  
 NG 96 Judd Smith (Jr., 2); 50 Casey Collum (Jr., 0)  
 DE 74 Julian Duncan (Sr., 3); 1 Ryan Smith (Fr., 0)  
 LB 44 Rashad Reynolds (Sr., 3); 43 J. Thompson (Fr., 0)  
 LB 33 Thomas Benford (Sr., 3); 35 Wesley Kubesch (Jr., 2)  
 LB 46 Larry Ruffin (Jr., 2); 11 Ben Wulf (So., 1)  
 CB 22 LaDoughyous McCalla (Sr., 3); 9 K. Smith (Fr., 0)  
 CB 27 Adrian Sadler (So., 1); 24 Josh McMillan (So., 1)  
 LS 13 Travis Ortega (So., 1); 30 Dan Dawson (Fr., 0)  
 RS 36 LonDee Smith (So., 1); 13 Jason Hebert (Fr., 0)  
 P 10 Scott Grimes (Jr., 2); 41 Victor Young (Sr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Ken Hatfield  
 Home Field: Rice Stadium (70,000)

1997 Record (WAC): 7-4 (5-3)  
 1998 Prediction: 3rd WAC Mountain



**T**he road back is not a freeway for a college football program that has been in the doldrums for more than three decades. The trip is long, slow and agonizing.

"But patience is not one of my virtues," says Glen Mason, who begins his second season as the University of Minnesota football coach.

The Gophers operated with a committee of running backs in 1997 and the same is expected in 1998. Junior Thomas Hamner started eight games and was the leading rusher with 663 yards after also leading in '96 with 883 yards. Junior Byron Evans possesses a quick start and has been Minnesota's second-leading rusher each of the last two years. Other candidates are a pair of redshirt freshmen, Michael Mullen and Renato Fitzpatrick.

Last year's fullback, Justin Hall, has been moved to linebacker, leaving senior Jim Bean and four new recruits as fullback possibilities.

With record-setting Tutu Atwell having graduated, along with Greg Nelson, the search for wide receivers will be intense. Junior Luke Leverson was second in receptions and yards in 1997, but the remaining candidates have little or no experience. They include Kahlen Barnes, Lee Hutton and Spencer Dettman. Junior Alex Hass started all 12 games at tight end in 1997.

Before injuries struck, the offensive line was going to be one of the strengths of the 1997 Gophers. Heading into 1998, four players have starting experience. Sophomore center Ben Hamilton is considered one of the best in the Big Ten. Jon Albrecht, Tim Socha and Pat Hau also return but will be used at different positions from last year. Maryland transfer Vinnie Xanthos and redshirt freshman Ryan Roth are considered good prospects.

The '97 Gopher defense allowed the fewest yards against the run in more than a decade and in the process recorded more sacks in a season than ever before. But

replacements must be found at both ends. Sophomore Mike Cernoch and junior Jon Michals will battle for one assignment. Senior Rufus Smith, converted from line-backer, will take over for the graduated Lemanzer Williams, the school's all-time sack leader, at rush end.

Antoine Richard and Josh Rawlings return at the tackles, where Dyrone Russ and Matt Anderle also could see playing time.

With Parc Williams and Sean Hoffman back at inside linebacker, the Gophers have reason to feel optimistic. Williams is an all-Big Ten prospect after finishing second on the team in tackles in 1997. Hoffman, who was third in tackles, made freshman All-America a year ago. Sophomore Curtese Poole drew plenty of attention in practices while he sat out after transferring from Kansas.

On the outside is Ben Mezera, who led the Gophers in fumble recoveries with three as a true freshman.

**1,001**

When the Gophers open the 1998 season at the Metrodome against Arkansas State on Sept. 5, they will be playing the 1,001st game in their history.

Junior Tyrone Carter, the leading tackler a year ago, is back at strong safety. Craig Scruggs and Jimmy Wyrick, who moved from wide receiver, are back to handle the cornerback spots. Free safety Keith Dimmy also was a wide receiver at one time.

Kicker Adam Bailey has been a semifinalist for the Lou Groza Award each of the last two seasons. That's due, in part, to the sheer amount of field goals he attempts. Junior Ryan Rindels took over as punter early in the season and averaged 40.4 yards.



Steve Wolmann

## Tyrone Carter

The 1997 record of 3-9 and a tie for ninth place in the Big Ten with a 1-7 mark wouldn't seem to indicate one giant leap for Gopherkind. But the Gophers did take some small steps during Mason's first season. There was marked defensive improvement against the run, but the offense was not as effective and rejuvenation is needed.

Mason, who had reconstituted football programs at Kent State and Kansas before coming to Minnesota, says his team will have to improve in all areas in 1998 to take the next step. It's been 31 years since Minnesota owned at least a part of a Big Ten title and 10 years since the Gophers have gone to a bowl game of any kind.

Record-setting quarterback Cory Sauter has graduated, and three candidates are knocking on the door. Junior Billy Cockerham, who played sparingly in eight games last year, has the inside track, if only because of experience. Cockerham has good speed and shows talent for being used in an option-style offense. He has a strong arm, but accuracy is a question.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

WR 7 Luke Leverson (Jr., 2); 83 Spencer Dettman (Jr., 0)  
 LT 74 Adam Haayer (So., 1); 73 Kris Hofferth (Jr., 0)  
 LG 78 Jon Albrecht (Sr., 3); 76 Vinnie Xanthos (So., 0)  
 C 55 Ben Hamilton (So., 1); 61 Jason Zander (Jr., 0)  
 RG 63 Tim Socha (Sr., 3); 66 Ryan Roth (Fr., 0)  
 RT 77 Pat Hau (Jr., 1); 79 Theron Von Behren (Jr., 0)  
 TE 84 Alex Hass (Jr., 1); 87 Troy Duerr (Sr., 3)  
 WR 3 Lee Hutton (Sr., 1); 4 Antoine Henderson (So., 1)  
 QB 5 Billy Cockerham (Jr., 1); 11 Andy Persby (So., 0)  
 FB 47 Jim Bean (Sr., 1); 25 Brad Prigge (Jr., 1)  
 RB 12 Thomas Hamner (Jr., 2); 36 Byron Evans (Jr., 2)  
 K 19 Adam Bailey (Sr., 2)

### DEFENSE (8)

LE 98 Mike Cernoch (So., 1); 95 Jon Michals (Jr., 2)  
 LT 58 Antoine Richard (Sr., 3); 92 Dyrone Russ (Jr., 1)  
 RT 94 Josh Rawlings (Jr., 1); 99 Matt Anderle (Fr., 0)  
 RE 46 Rufus Smith (Sr., 3); 90 Drew Dehnicke (Fr., 0)  
 ILB 37 Parc Williams (Sr., 3); 9 Curtese Poole (So., 0)  
 ILB 45 Sean Hoffman (So., 1); 38 Justin Hall (So., 1)  
 OLB 97 Ben Mezera (So., 1); 52 Luke Braaten (Jr., 2)  
 CB 30 Jimmy Wyrick (Jr., 2); 20 Fred Rodgers (Jr., 2)  
 CB 2 Craig Scruggs (Sr., 3); 13 Travis Graham (So., 1)  
 SS 22 Tyrone Carter (Jr., 2); 28 Tim Grate (Sr., 2)  
 FS 8 Keith Dimmy (Sr., 1); 42 Willie Middlebrooks (Fr., 0)  
 P 35 Ryan Rindels (Jr., 2); 26 Steve Kempf (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Glen Mason  
 Home Field: Metrodome (63,669)

1997 Record (Big Ten): 3-9 (1-7)  
 1998 Prediction: 11th Big Ten



**S**an Diego State has always been predicted to do something in the WAC. But it's not always something positive. They may underachieve, win eight games and fail to go to a bowl game, or possess NFL talent at skill positions and be unable to maximize it. Skepticism is the mood that surrounds the Aztec program.

They were 5-7 a year ago, 1-4 through

late in the season to prove that there could be another breakaway back at San Diego State. Lewis rushed for 1,020 yards despite not starting until the final seven games. Lewis could be challenged or at least complemented by Tyrone Evans, a speedy senior who carries three years of experience. The needed blocking back may have arrived in junior college transfer Mike Williams.

For the first time in six seasons, there's no star at wide receiver. Yet, this group has talent, with speed as its forte. Size won't dominate the position, as the diminutive Jesus Reyes will be the key receiver. Damon Gourdine, Sean Pierce and Lonny Mitchell will also be part of this smurf unit.

Brinton will look to tight ends Ben Mechem (back after knee surgery), Gray McNeill, Giovanni Toccagino and Jim Ange.

Four starters are gone from the offensive line, including first-round pick Kyle Turley. Replacing four of five starters, in addition to the line coach, doesn't bode well for an offense hoping to run first, pass second.

But there's hope in the middle with two-year starter Mike Malano at center. Rick Austin, a transfer from Washington State, asserted himself as a starter before breaking his leg in September. Reserves Andrew Kline and Greg Spillane will become starters, but the impact may come from Mississippi State transfer Brad Elmore.

The defensive line may have some better luck. San Diego State finished the season 72nd in the nation in total defense. That's not too good, but it's the best for the Aztecs

since 1986 when they were 48th. Facing Washington, Wisconsin and Arizona had something to do with the numbers. All-American Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila is back at defensive end. He was tied for the WAC lead in sacks with 12 and his 82 total tackles were the fourth-highest in school history. His brother, Akbar, could start at the other end, though it more likely will be Antwone Young, who started four games last season. Darryl Jones is back at tackle along with junior college transfer Tony Matautia, David Neal and Clarence Martin, a transfer from Texas.

**137.4**

San Diego State's passing efficiency defense rating last season, No. 14 in the WAC, 87th in the nation. The Aztecs gave up 2,682 yards, an average of 223.5 yards a game, and 19 touchdowns. Opposing quarterbacks completed 58.5 percent of their passes.

San Diego State has had the names and the athletes at every position but line-backer. What the Aztecs get there are over-achievers. This year, Joe Jackson, Joseph Tuipala, Martin Chlumak, Michael Duran and Scott Johnson should fill that role.

The corners were beaten often last season, but the secondary had 11 interceptions in the last six games after just one interception in the first six.

Rico Curtis and Aazaar Abdul-Rahim return at strong safety and cornerback. Eric Lewis is back in the other corner.

Both punter Don Copeland and place-kicker Nate Tandberg return. The Aztecs were ninth in the nation in punt returns behind Eric Lewis (11.7 yards a return). Kickoff return is wide open.



**Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila**

the first five games after a punishing schedule put them on the road for four consecutive games after the season opener. A tough schedule, a shaky quarterback and a revamped offensive line make things appear difficult again this year.

The uncertainty won't stop many pundits from predicting that the Aztecs will challenge for the title, but once again they will fall short of their expected goal.

Quarterback Spencer Brinton was put into a difficult spot, replacing injured starter Kevin McKechnie six games into the season and becoming the first true freshman ever to start at quarterback for the Aztecs. To Brinton's credit, the team went 4-2 during his six games as a starter.

The problem with Brinton was that he rarely got to his second or third options on pass plays. However, he worked with former Chargers quarterback Sean Salisbury over the summer and the feeling is that the highly-touted recruit will blossom with a full season.

At running back, Jonas Lewis came on

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (3)

**SE** 5 Jesus Reyes (Sr., 2); 11 Deric Martin (Fr., 0)  
**LT** 67 Rick Austin (Sr., 0); 71 Pat Smith (So., 0)  
**LG** 76 Andrew Kline (Jr., 2); 62 Chris Williams (So., 0)  
**C** 53 Mike Malano (Jr., 2); 64 Zach LaMonda (So., 0)  
**RG** 78 Brad Elmore (Sr., 0); 66 Ted Printy (Jr., 0)  
**RT** 65 Greg Spillane (Jr., 1); 69 Mike Houghton (Fr., 0)  
**TE** 89 Ben Mechem (Sr., 2); 82 Giovanni Toccagino (Jr., 0)  
**QB** 16 Spencer Brinton (So., 1); 18 Brian Russell (So., 0)  
**RB** 32 Jonas Lewis (Jr., 2); 6 Tyrone Evans (Sr., 3)  
**FL** 1 Damon Gourdine (Jr., 1); 12 Lonny Mitchell (Jr., 1)  
**WR** 81 Sean Pierce (So., 1); 15 Thomas Howard (Fr., 0)  
**K** 13 Nate Tandberg (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (5)

**LE** 92 Antwone Young (Jr., 1); 94 Akbar Gbaja-Biamila (So., 0)  
**LT** 90 Clarence Martin (Jr., 0); 95 David Neal (So., 1)  
**RT** 99 Darryl Jones (Sr., 1); 91 Tony Matautia (Sr., 1)  
**RE** 93 Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila (Jr., 2); 77 James Wu (Sr., 1)  
**SLB** 35 Joe Jackson (Sr., 3); 46 Michael Duran (Jr., 2)  
**MLB** 48 Joseph Tuipala (Sr., 3); 52 Martin Chlumak (Sr., 0)  
**WLB** 56 Scott Johnson (Jr., 2); 44 Kevin Miller (Jr., 0)  
**CB** 29 Eric Lewis (Sr., 3); 22 Tairou Smith (Jr., 1)  
**CB** 23 Aazaar Abdul-Rahim (Jr., 1); 20 Wesley Ace (Fr., 0)  
**SS** 37 Rico Curtis (Jr., 2); 41 Scott Auerbach (Sr., 2)  
**FS** 26 James Stewart (Sr., 0); 49 Matt Thorne (Fr., 0)  
**P** 85 Don Copeland (Sr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Ted Tollner

Home Field: Qualcomm Stadium (71,400)

1997 Record (WAC): 5-7 (4-4)

1998 Prediction: 3rd WAC Pacific



# Kansas Jayhawks

# 74

The program was "on the edge," Terry Allen said prior to his first season as Kansas head coach. However, he added, the program "has been there before, so the pieces have been in place. It makes you believe that the trail back can be short."

Last season turned into something of a detour, as the Jayhawks lost five of their final six games. Whether they're able to get

The Jayhawks have an abundance of experience at receiver, a position that also will be strengthened by the anticipated return of John Gordon and Harrison Hill.

Gordon, who started five games and appeared headed for stardom at wide receiver as a true freshman, sat out last season after being diagnosed with cardiomyopathy and sleep apnea. It is still questionable whether he will return or not. If he does return, he could step into a starting role.

He would join a group that includes Michael Chandler, the team's leading receiver last season with 21 catches for 311 yards, and Eric Patterson, Termaine Fulton and Tanner Hancock, all of whom started at least twice. Fulton caught four touchdown passes. Brian Gray will fill in as the tight end.

The responsibility for the Jayhawks' lack of a running game rested with the offensive line, which should be improved this season, if for no other reason than experience. Michael Lies, Justin Glasgow, Chris Enneking, Dameon Hunt and Dan Dercher started the final five games.

Allen needs to shore up his defensive line. Kansas had difficulty stopping the run, a serious problem in the ground-oriented Big 12. The Jayhawks ranked No. 98 in the nation in rushing defense.

Dion Johnson is an imposing presence at end. He's much improved over his freshman season, when he started twice. He started every game last year, finishing with 39 tackles. Lanky Jeremy Hanak has been hampered by knee problems. Adrian Greene, who is expected to return after redshirting

last season while getting his schoolwork in order, has the experience to help at end. Nose tackle John Williams has size and strength but little experience.

Outside linebacker Patrick Brown is the defensive leader. He's aggressive with a knack for making big plays. He intercepted three passes last season, two of which he returned for touchdowns against Alabama-Birmingham to tie an NCAA record for linebackers. Steve Bratten was involved in 54 tackles last season, including 10 for losses totaling 31 yards. J.J. Johnson, who made 41 tackles last season, joins Bratten on the inside. Hanson Caston has shown flashes of playmaking ability on the outside.

The secondary is rebuilt around cornerback Jamie Harris, who begins his third season as a starter. The other three starting positions are up for grabs. Michael Allen is the most experienced. Chad Coellner, a converted receiver, played in every game as a backup at free safety. Muhammad Abdul-Rahim, a junior college transfer, will be expected to contribute immediately at cornerback.

**11.3%**

The decline in attendance for Kansas home games in 1997. The average attendance was 37,333, the lowest in the Big 12.



David Preston

## Zac Wegner

back on the trail will depend on developing an offense. Kansas ranked No. 112 in the nation offensively in 1997 — out of a possible 112.

Quarterback Zac Wegner will have to step up his game to make sure a repeat of last season's offensive output doesn't happen. Wegner completed 66-of-144 for 970 yards with four touchdowns and five interceptions last season.

The Jayhawks' inability to throw matched their inability to run, translating into a No. 103 national ranking in scoring. The offense produced only 21 touchdowns, nine by rushing. David Winbush (5-7), who ran for 2,564 yards and 22 touchdowns as a high school senior, was the team's second-leading rusher, gaining 338 yards. Sophomore Greg Davis was held out of spring practice because of injury but should be ready at fullback in the fall. Davis is a strong blocker, for those rare instances when Kansas deviates from a one-back set. Davis also has shown he can be an effective weapon catching passes.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (10)

SE 86 Michael Chandler (Jr., 2); 1 Harrison Hill (Fr., 0)  
 LT 79 Dan Dercher (Sr., 2); 78 Chuck Jarvis (So., 1)  
 LG 73 Dameon Hunt (Jr., 2); 72 Shawn Vang (Sr., 2)  
 C 68 Chris Enneking (Jr., 1); 56 Bob Schmidt (So., 1)  
 RG 76 Justin Glasgow (Sr., 2); 66 Marc Owen (So., 1)  
 RT 50 Michael Lies (Sr., 2); 65 Justin Hartwig (Fr., 0)  
 TE 84 Brian Gray (Sr., 2); 80 Jason Guley (So., 1)  
 QB 14 Zac Wegner (Jr., 1); 8 Akili Roberson (Sr., 1)  
 FB 32 Greg Davis (So., 1); 36 Tyrus Fontenot (Jr., 2)  
 HB 40 David Winbush (So., 1); 20 Mitch Bowles (Jr., 2)  
 FL 89 Termaine Fulton (So., 1); 43 Tanner Hancock (So., 1)  
 K 30 Joe Garcia (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (4)

DE 93 Adrian Greene (Jr., 2); 95 Jeremy Hanak (Jr., 2)  
 NT 59 John Williams (Jr., 2); 92 Nate Dwyer (Fr., 0)  
 DE 63 Dion Johnson (Jr., 2); 69 Jeff Redhage (Jr., 1)  
 OLB 47 Patrick Brown (Sr., 3); 16 Tim Bowers (So., 1)  
 ILB 54 Steve Bratten (Sr., 3); 55 Andrew LeClair (Fr., 0)  
 ILB 45 J.J. Johnson (Sr., 3); 51 Dariss Lomax (So., 1)  
 OLB 11 Hanson Caston (Sr., 1); 97 Victor Bullock (So., 1)  
 CB 37 Jamie Harris (Sr., 3); 22 Jermaine Cromerdie (Jr., 0)  
 CB 23 M. Abdul-Rahim (Jr., 0); 3 Jahmal Wright (Jr., 0)  
 SS 18 Chad Coellner (Jr., 2); 2 Freddie Hammonds (Sr., 1)  
 FS 27 Michael Allen (Sr., 3); 17 Greg Erb (So., 1)  
 P Joey Pelfanio (Jr., 0); 6 Matt Tyler (Fr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Terry Allen  
 Home Field: Memorial Stadium (50,250)

1997 Record (Big 12): 5-6 (3-5)  
 1998 Prediction: 5th Big 12 North



Is this the season Oregon State's long Northwest nightmare finally ends? Second-year coach Mike Riley believes it's possible. "Now there are no more excuses," he says. Excuses like bad facilities, soggy weather or Oregon State's relatively isolated location. "Those are phony, built-up, they're self-fulfilling, and an excuse for why we can't win. And they're not valid."



Peter Brouillette

## Tim Alexander

Success will hinge on several keys: The ability of junior-college transfer Terrance Bryant to make a quick transition; the offensive line's run-blocking prowess for a dependable tailback; and the health of the defensive line and linebackers.

The non-conference schedule is favorable, with early home games against Nevada and Baylor and a trip over to Utah State.

We're not talking Pasadena here. But 6-5 and a spot in a lower-echelon bowl game would be reason enough for a statewide celebration by long-suffering Beaver Believers.

Bryant averaged nearly 490 yards per game in total offense in 1997 and is clearly expected to win the quarterback job. Holdover Tim Alexander has been moved to flanker. Bryant is big (6-2, 220) and athletic and went 21-2 as a starter at City College of San Francisco.

Jason Dandridge moved from defensive back to tailback last year and may have wrapped up the position with a strong season-ending game at Oregon. Johnno Lazetich returns at fullback, primarily a

blocking position and rarely used.

Greg Ainsworth established himself as a legitimate Pac-10 receiver in 1997 (49 receptions, 600 yards), and junior Roddy Tompkins (46 for 538) and sophomore Robert Prescott (24 for 424) were dependable. None of the three was a consistent deep threat, though. The Beavers may have added the game-breaker they seek in recruit James Newson. Alexander should make the adjustment from quarterback to flanker with ease.

Tight end Joe Kuykendall is a three-year starter; he and Martin Maurer both will see plenty of time. There is enough talent here for the Beavers to be more explosive and productive.

Oregon State rushed for 82 or fewer yards in eight of its last nine games in 1997 as the line struggled. Improvement is imperative and almost impossible to avoid.

Senior tackle Matt Gartung, senior guard Larry Ramirez and junior center Aaron Koch are returning starters, and sophomore tackle Keith DiDomenico started some as well. Look for incoming freshman Mike Kuykendall and junior college transfer Robert Theus to make themselves known quickly.

On the defensive line, senior rush end Inoke Breckterfield is small (5-11, 243) but his quickness and tenacity have given him a solid place in Oregon State football history. Breckterfield holds the school record for tackles for losses (40), had eight sacks and forced three fumbles in 1997.

Sophomore Ryan Atkinson, junior Aaron Wells and seniors James Greule and Alex Sawatzke all have starting experience,

though Sawatzke is coming off reconstructive knee surgery.

The Beavers are undersized but could be beefed up by JC transfer Paul Luoma (6-3, 290), a former rugby player from Australia. Five other lettermen give the defensive line experience, even if it's unproven.

Senior strong-side linebacker Brian Rogers and weak-side linebacker Bryan Jones are all-conference types. Junior middle linebacker Jonathan Jackson will be a first-year starter. The Beavers need a full season from junior Micah Moore, who missed five games in '97 with a knee injury.

Much of a talented secondary returns, but Oregon State is thin behind the starters. Senior DBs Andrae Holland and Armon Hatcher have started three years, and sophomore free safety Terrance Carroll is back for his second season as a regular.



The number of times the Beavers have finished last in the Pac-10 since 1986. The Beavers are 1-23 in conference play over the past three seasons and haven't won three league games since 1989.

Robert Ruffin, a three-year letterman, left the program in the offseason, but transfer Karriem Adams will fill his place.

Special-teams play improved dramatically in 1997. Senior placekicker Jose Cortez hit 11-of-19 field goals and all but one of his extra points in 1997. He had only two misses from inside 40 yards and has the leg for the occasional 55-yarder. Sophomore punter Mike Fessler was inconsistent but improved steadily. The return game was average, and coverage teams allowed two punt-return touchdowns.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

SE 80 Roddy Tompkins (Jr., 2); 83 James Battle (Sr., 1)  
SL 1 Greg Ainsworth (Sr., 1); 22 Brandon Reynolds (Jr., 2)  
LT 79 Keith DiDomenico (So., 1); 74 Vincent Sandoval (Fr., 0)  
LG 77 Larry Ramirez (Sr., 3); 75 Jared Cornell (So., 1)  
C 50 Aaron Koch (Jr., 2); 61 Dustin Janz (So., 1)  
RG 72 Robert Sykes (So., 1); 60 Chris Gibson (Fr., 0)  
TE 78 Matt Gartung (Sr., 1); 69 Tyler McLaughry (Fr., 0)  
RT 88 Joe Kuykendall (Sr., 3); 87 Martin Maurer (So., 1)  
QB 12 Terrance Bryant (Jr., 0); 16 Tyler Tomich (Sr., 1)  
TB 29 Jason Dandridge (Sr., 3); 33 DeShawn Williams (Sr., 3)  
FL 10 Tim Alexander (Sr., 3); 82 Robert Prescott (So., 1)  
K 42 Jose Cortez (Sr., 1); 28 Quinn Doan (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

DE 56 Inoke Breckterfield (Sr., 3); 96 Kelron Sykes (Sr., 2)  
DT 49 Aaron Wells (Jr., 2); 84 Daniel Torres (Fr., 0)  
NG 9 James Greule (Sr., 1); 90 Ryan Atkinson (So., 1)  
DE 48 Alex Sawatzke (Sr., 3); 57 Jason Magee (Sr., 1)  
SLB 58 Brian Rogers (Sr., 3); 27 Micah Moore (Jr., 2)  
MLB 39 Jonathan Jackson (Jr., 2); 52 Greg Brown-Davis (So., 1)  
WLB 43 Bryan Jones (Sr., 3); 17 Brandon Boice (Jr., 2)  
CB 23 Andrae Holland (Sr., 3); 24 Samuel Gage (So., 1)  
CB 6 Karriem Adams (Jr., 0); 3 Keith Heyward-Johnson (So., 1)  
HB 15 Armon Hatcher (Sr., 3); 32 Calvin Carlyle (Fr., 0)  
FS 44 Terrence Carroll (So., 1); 14 Robert Marthaller (So., 1)  
P 99 Mike Fessler (So., 1); 95 Bret Hopkins (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mike Riley  
Home Field: Parker Stadium (35,362)

1997 Record (Pac-10): 3-8 (0-8)  
1998 Prediction: 10th Pac-10



**T**he Aggies are the favorite to repeat as champions despite breaking in new head coach Dave Arslanian after a successful run under new Louisville head coach John L. Smith. Utah State simply has the best returning talent.

Last season, Utah State earned first place in the conference by posting a 4-1 mark. That was good enough to put the Aggies

Guard Walter Fiefia, a starter before a leg injury limited his playing time, returns for his senior season. Doug Madoski will be at tackle, while Vaughn Harrison and Vaea Fiefia are key backups and could contend for starting jobs.

Tony D'Amato, who recorded a team-high 124 tackles, is the only starter back from the linebacking corps. D'Amato, a former All-America at Rancho Santiago JC, joined the team in the spring before his senior season. Three others will battle for the remaining spots. Blake Eagal started three games, while Brent Passey and Tony Newson had limited action in backup roles.

Utah State's secondary is loaded and four starters return from a unit that led the league with 14 interceptions. Free safety Johndale Carty, a team captain last season, finished 10th in the nation with six interceptions and also blocked two punts. Donald Dicko returns at strong safety. Cornerback Vashon Garmon had four interceptions, but is running second on the depth chart to Craig Miller. Bashir Livingston will man the other corner.

Arslanian inherits just four offensive starters from a unit that finished ninth nationally in total offense and 14th in passing offense. The key is running back Demario Brown in the one-back set. Brown, a junior, averaged 121.4 yards a game even though he missed three games due to injury. Backup John Roberts is coming off a redshirt season.

Brian Benza has the best shot to replace two-year starter Matt Sauk, the fifth-leading passer in Utah State history. He'll be chal-

lenged by Riley Jensen. And not only will the Aggies rely on a new quarterback to get its prolific passing attack off the ground, they will also break in a new set of wide receivers. Who will replace Nakia Jenkins who pulled in nearly 100 yards per game?

Senior Ricky Brumfield, who caught just 12 passes for 218 yards, is the only returning starter. Sophomore Aaron Jones showed big-play capabilities with a 29.7-yard average on six catches, and Utah State is looking for big things from Adrien Pierson.

**1** Utah State's Merlin Olsen was the overall No. 1 pick in the 1962 NFL draft. Olsen, a defensive lineman, played for the Los Angeles Rams for 15 seasons before earning induction into the NFL Hall of Fame in 1982. He went on to Hollywood, and starred in *Little House on the Prairie* and *Father Murphy*.

The offensive line lost two first-team all-conference picks. Starting guards Mike Lindsay and Ken Watts bolster a line that will likely see junior college transfers fill the voids.

The kicking game should be a strength with record-setting kickers Jerry Arguello and Brad Bohn back. Arguello set a school record and finished 11th in the nation with a 44.8-yard punting average. Arguello earned all-state honors at Rancho Santiago JC in both punting and kicking before arriving at Utah State. Bohn returns after hitting nine field goals in 15 attempts, including a 47-yard shot last season.

Utah State lost Steve Smith to graduation. Smith led the conference in punt returns and was among the league leaders in kickoff returns.



Greg Bullard

## Demario Brown

into the Humanitarian Bowl. A good send off for a departing coach. It was only the team's sixth appearance in a bowl which include the Las Vegas Bowl (1993), Gotham Bowl (1961), Sun Bowl (1960), Grape Bowl (1947) and Raisin Bowl (1946). Don't worry about Arslanian. His new team should earn him a bowl game this year too.

Other teams in the usually offensive-minded Big West will see more of Utah State's strong defense, which returns seven starters from unit that led the Big West in every statistical category.

Missing will be standout defensive lineman and Big West Defensive Player of the Year Ben Crosland and second-team selection John Latu, but starters Caleb Smith and Lindsey Hassell return to anchor the line. Both ranked among Big West top 10 sack leaders last season. Smith, whose brother played at Idaho, has seen considerable playing time since his freshman season. Hassell walked on before the 1997 season and has been a surprise.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

WR 11 Adrien Pierson (Jr., 2); 16 Adam Colbert (Fr., 0)  
LT 76 Ben Holbrook (Jr., 2); Artavias Thompkins (Fr., 0)  
LG 57 Mike Lindsay (Jr., 2); Jess Schuck (Fr., 0)  
C 63 Matt Jenkins (So., 0); 53 Junior Pututau (So., 0)  
RG 65 Ken Watts (Sr., 3); 62 Matt Lance (Jr., 0)  
RT 68 Joe German (Sr., 3); Jim Newton (Fr., 0)  
TE 87 Waqa Damuni (Sr., 2); 22 Bucky Orton (Jr., 0)  
QB 18 Brian Benza (So., 1); 8 Riley Jensen (Sr., 0)  
RB 21 Demario Brown (Jr., 2); 31 John Roberts (Fr., 0)  
WR 10 London McBride (Sr., 2); 9 Aaron Jones (So., 1)  
WR 5 Ricky Brumfield (Sr., 3); 15 Fareed Rashada (Fr., 0)  
K 26 Brad Bohn (So., 1); 36 Brandon Reesor (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

DE 52 Caleb Smith (Jr., 2); 92 Nate Larsen (So., 1)  
DT 91 Doug Madoski (Jr., 0); 72 Vaea Fiefia (Jr., 2)  
DG 73 Walter Fiefia (Sr., 3); 72 Vaea Fiefia (Jr., 2)  
DE 51 Lindsay Hassell (Sr., 1); 99 Sean Hansen (Jr., 2)  
LB 44 Brent Passey (So., 1); 56 Vaughn Harrison (Sr., 1)  
LB 46 Tony D'Amato (Sr., 1); 48 Brad Ferguson (Fr., 0)  
LB 47 Blake Eagal (So., 1); 19 Tony Newson (So., 1)  
CB 27 Bashir Livingston (Sr., 1); 30 Eddie Badibanga (Sr., 2)  
CB 13 Craig Miller (Sr., 3); 23 Vashon Garmon (Jr., 2)  
SS 45 Donald Dicko (Jr., 2); 2 Greg White (Jr., 0)  
FS 3 Johndale Carty (Sr., 3); Kyle Langston (Fr., 0)  
P 39 Jerry Arguello (Sr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dave Arslanian

Home Field: Romney Stadium (30,257)

1997 Record (Big West): 6-5 (4-1)

1998 Prediction: 1st Big West



Interesting, isn't it, the contrast between Duke's football and basketball programs? While Duke's basketball teams frolic high in the national rankings, the Blue Devils have floundered in football, winning five games the last three years. But don't bother telling that to Fred Goldsmith. Although Duke was 2-9 overall last year and 0-8 again in the ACC, the Duke coach

ranking fourth in the ACC with 126 yards a game, and will look for more balance this year. Three of the top four running backs return, topped by senior fullback Dawud Rasheed and junior tailback Letavious Wilks. But the player to watch could be sophomore Duane Epperson, who showed explosiveness last season.

Junior Scottie Montgomery will again be one of the ACC's most versatile and dangerous athletes. A year ago, Montgomery grabbed 51 passes for 633 yards, finishing 10th in the ACC in receptions.

The Blue Devils must rely on some unproven young receivers such as sophomore Richmond Flowers and junior Reco Owens, who both earned medical redshirts last season. Look for quicker pass drops and routes by the Devils. Junior Terrence Dupree finished '97 as the starting tight end.

Junior tackle Austin Smithwick and senior guard Lennie Friedman will be the leaders up front this season in an offense that will have more of a pro style. Smithwick has started the last two years and the Devils are high on sophomore center Troy Andrew, sophomore tackles Wes White and Mike Alberto, and guard Shawn Lynch. Friedman continues to improve and sophomore Wallace Niemcow could earn starting time.

Defensive tackle Chris Combs, now a 281-pounder, will be hard to handle up front. The junior has 28 tackles for losses, including 14 sacks, in his first two seasons.

Combs has some strong support in senior nose guard Eric Scanlan on a defensive front that helped the Blue Devils force 16

turnovers in their final six games last year. At the defensive end position, look for 6-8, 265-pound junior Gannon Shepherd and 6-7, 235-pound sophomore Nate Krill to put their size and range to good use.

The Blue Devils are well-stocked at line-backer, with inside backers Ryan Stallmeyer, a junior, and sophomore Randy Ament flanked by sophomore Kendral Knight and junior Kevin Lewis. Stallmeyer, the team's leading returning tackler, is active in the middle. Lewis is potentially a big-play defender who notched five tackles for losses and three sacks in '97.

**409** That's how many yards the Duke defense coughed up each game a year ago. And it's a figure that must improve in 1998 for the Blue Devils to even sniff a winning record.

Three juniors return from a defensive backfield that was porous at times but should be stingier. Strong safety Darius Clark, free safety Eric Jones and cornerback Lamar Grant have a combined 50 starts and have broken up 19 passes and picked off seven balls during their careers. Jones had a team-high four interceptions last year.

Kicker Sims Lenhardt and sophomore punter Brian "Boomer" Morton return. Lenhardt, an All-ACC pick, was 16-of-20 on field goals and was a finalist for the Lou Groza Award. Morton averaged 41.4 yards a punt, helping the Blue Devils finish fourth in the ACC in net punting.

Montgomery, a second-team All-ACC receiver a year ago, was also among the league leaders in kickoff returns (22.9 avg.). Epperson, Flowers and backup flanker Ben Erdeljac will also return kicks and punts.



**Chris Combs**

says the Devils were close, losing four games in which they led in the fourth quarter.

"We started over in 1996 with freshmen, to tell the truth, and it has taken a while," Goldsmith says. "We don't have many seniors, but we have a lot of juniors and sophomores who have been in the mix, have the experience and now can compete. For the first time, we look physically like a Division I-A football team. It's going to come. There will be a point when we win."

We'll see.

It was quarterback-by-committee last year and could be the same this season under new offensive coordinator Les Koenning. Sophomore Spencer Romine, mobile and efficient, emerged from spring drills with the edge.

What Koenning wants as much as anything is error-free play. Duke was eighth in the ACC and 91st nationally in turnover margin, losing the ball 28 times. The Blue Devils also were eighth in the league in total offense and 95th among I-A teams.

Duke emphasized the run more in 1997,

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

SE **2** Scottie Montgomery (Jr., 2); 3 Reco Owens (Jr., 2)  
LT 76 Wes White (So., 0); 61 Benji Wallace (So., 0)  
LG **74** Lennie Friedman (Sr., 3); 79 Shawn Lynch (Fr., 0)  
C 71 Troy Andrew (So., 1); 78 Kevin Schmidt (So., 1)  
RG 53 Wallace Niemcow (So., 1); 63 Robert Fleming (So., 1)  
RT **56** Austin Smithwick (Jr., 2); 77 John Miller (Fr., 0)  
TE 89 Terrence Dupree (Jr., 2); 82 Joey Bachstein (Jr., 2)  
QB 14 Spencer Romine (So., 1); **15** Bobby Campbell (So., 1)  
FB **34** Dawud Rasheed (Sr., 3); 38 Devin Pierce (So., 1)  
TB **21** Letavious Wilks (Jr., 2); 33 Duane Epperson (So., 1)  
FL 22 Richmond Flowers (So., 1); 19 Ben Erdeljac (So., 1)  
K **12** Sims Lenhardt (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (8)

DT **93** Chris Combs (Jr., 2); 60 Mike Alberto (So., 1)  
NG **91** Eric Scanlan (Sr., 3); 94 Mike Steinbaugh (Jr., 2)  
DE 98 Gannon Shepherd (Jr., 2); 83 Nate Krill (So., 1)  
LB **58** Kendral Knight (So., 1); 99 Brian McCormack (Jr., 1)  
LB **44** Ryan Stallmeyer (Jr., 2); 52 Charles Porter (Fr., 0)  
LB 51 Randy Ament (So., 1); 49 Todd DeLamielleure (Fr., 0)  
LB **27** Kevin Lewis (Jr., 2); 10 Chris Norkus (Sr., 3)  
CB 37 Lamar Grant (Jr., 2); 4 Jason Jenkins (Jr., 1)  
CB 28 Alonzo Moyer (Sr., 3); 20 Kevin Holley (Sr., 3)  
SS **13** Darius Clark (Jr., 2); 30 Luke Roush (So., 1)  
FS **23** Eric Jones (Jr., 2); 39 Kali Webster (So., 0)  
P **17** Brian Morton (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Fred Goldsmith  
Home Field: Wallace Wade Stadium (33,941)

1997 Record (ACC): 2-9 (0-8)  
1998 Prediction: 9th ACC



**T**he Bulldogs are too young to be good, especially considering a schedule that opens with trips to Colorado and Texas Tech. It doesn't get any easier, with a stretch of four of five games on the road during the WAC season.

Opening with one Big 12 power and another school that perennially is in the bowl picture puts a must-win label on a

know how he'll handle being the primary option. The hope is that redshirt freshman Paris Gaines makes an impact. Head coach Pat Hill could move Kimbrough to fullback if Gaines emerges as a primary tailback. He can also use Carl Holmes and Akka-Ar Moses at fullback and put Kimbrough at tailback.

The Bulldogs used to be known as a Wide Receiver U, but no position has seen a greater decline than receiver. If sophomore Atnaf Harris, who was ineligible last season, doesn't make a splash, the Bulldogs will once again be without a deep threat.

The offensive line loses two of five starters, including Chris Conrad, who may find a spot in the NFL. The three seniors who return — tackle Josh Kobdich, left guard Ken Foersch and tackle Jeremiah Ross — should give Volek ample time to throw. The question marks will be at center and right guard.

Seven of the nine players along the defensive line will be first- or second-year players.

Four sophomores — Jake Probst, Justin Johnson, Russell Harding and Kevin Jordan — junior Seandale Jackson and senior Patrick Machado will start the season, but they're just bandages until Hill feels confident in newcomers Frank Battle, Brock Torresdal and Ramsey Venner.

At linebacker, keep an eye on the return of Allen Nicholas, who blew his knee out last season but could challenge Tim Skipper. Tyrell Grayson, Maurice Rodriguez, Justin Johnson and Giachino Chiaramonte will receive the most repetitions.

Hill is convinced the secondary will be the strength of the defense, but the Bulldogs still seem vulnerable to the long ball.

Sam Wilson, Payton Williams, Cory Hall, Efrain Guizar, Anthony Limbrick, Tierre Sams and Curtis Edwards are hard hitters who will have to mature quickly as the Bulldogs travel to Colorado and Texas Tech in the first two weeks. The group should be able to hang with WAC receivers, though.

**+13**

A year after finishing 110th out of 111 teams in turnover margin (at minus 20), the Bulldogs vaulted to the No. 12 spot in 1997, finishing at plus-13. Fresno State running backs played a big role in the Bulldogs' impressive turnaround by not losing a fumble all season.

Guizar, a former walk-on, had six interceptions to rank 10th in the country in average per game. It was Fresno State's highest single-season total since Rod Webster had six in 1985.

Junior placekicker Jeff Hanna overcame a sluggish start — missing four field goals — to hit 12 of his last 14 and earn second team All-WAC Pacific Division honors. For the year, he made 12-of-18 field goals and 32-of-35 extra points and led the Bulldogs in scoring with 68 points.

Senior punter Jeff Roberts may be the Bulldogs' best offensive weapon with his field placement. He set a single-season punting record as a sophomore (44.7) and enters the season as No. 1 on Fresno State's career punting average with 42.6.

Returns are a concern for Hill, who doesn't feel he has a "top return man out of the kids we have."



John Betancourt

## Billy Volek

home game against Nevada. The Bulldogs were able to recover from a 1-3 start last season by finishing with a 5-3 record over the final eight games. However, that was with running back Michael Pittman, whose eligibility is complete. The majority of the defense will consist of freshman and sophomores.

In a division with Utah, Brigham Young and San Diego State, the Bulldogs' best hope is fourth in the Pacific.

A lot of Fresno State's success may rest on Billy Volek's shoulders. Volek was supposed to be the untested, unproven entity a year ago. He wasn't. Volek provided one of the WAC's pleasant surprises by throwing 17 touchdowns with only six interceptions. He hadn't taken a snap in college prior to the 1997 season but completed 56 percent of his passes for 1,853 yards and finished fifth in WAC passing efficiency.

Losing Pittman was huge. The Bulldogs lack the reliable back who can produce 100-yard games. Senior Jaime Kimbrough has the potential but he has only been a reliable role player the past two seasons. It's hard to

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

WR 19 Anthony Tucker (Sr., 2); 2 Atnaf Harris (So., 0)  
LT 71 Josh Kobdich (Sr., 4); 78 Donnell Burch (Fr., 0)  
LG 62 Ken Foersch (Sr., 3); 64 Jessie Watson (Fr., 0)  
C 65 Chad Ede (Sr., 0); 55 Mike Stovall (Fr., 0)  
RG 57 Russell Harding (So., 1); 63 Johnny Potasi (Fr., 0)  
RT 77 Jeremiah Ross (Sr., 2); 68 Rob Gatrell (Sr., 2)  
TE 80 Scott Thompson (Sr., 3); 86 Vince Branstetter (Sr., 2)  
QB 7 Billy Volek (Sr., 2); 15 David Carr (So., 1)  
FB 34 Jaime Kimbrough (Sr., 3); 12 Carl Holmes (Sr., 1)  
RB 26 Joe Turner (Sr., 1); 1 Paris Gaines (So., 0)  
WR 84 David Shabaglian (So., 1); 87 Eric Mahanke (Sr., 1)  
K 39 Jeff Hanna (Sr., 1)

### DEFENSE (5)

DE 91 Patrick Machado (Sr., 1); 96 Frank Battle (Sr., 0)  
DT 67 Jerry Lemon (Sr., 2); 74 Bryce Jackson (So., 1)  
DT 58 Seandale Jackson (Sr., 2); 99 Thabiti Lockhart (So., 0)  
DE 59 Jake Probst (So., 1); 53 Kevin Jordan (So., 1)  
LB 9 Tyrell Grayson (So., 1); 45 Kevin Adams (Sr., 0)  
LB 51 Tim Skipper (So., 1); 48 Giachino Chiaramonte (So., 1)  
LB 95 Justin Johnson (So., 1); 44 Maurice Rodriguez (Fr., 0)  
CB 8 Sam Wilson (Sr., 1); 27 Dante Marsh (So., 1)  
CB 24 Payton Williams (Sr., 2); 4 Tierre Sams (So., 0)  
SS 38 Efrain Guizar (Sr., 1); 25 Anthony Limbrick (So., 1)  
FS 5 Cory Hall (Sr., 3); 36 Lawrence Deck (So., 1)  
P 35 Jeff Roberts (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Pat Hill  
Home Field: Bulldog Stadium (41,031)

1997 Record (WAC): 6-6 (5-3)  
1998 Prediction: 4th WAC Pacific



**B**all State has been one of the most successful teams in the MAC in the last decade, but 1997 was an uncharacteristically subpar season for them. With only one victory (over Division I-AA James Madison) in its first seven games, Ball State appeared headed for one of its worst campaigns in school history. But the Cardinals rebounded by winning their last four

setting up the four-game winning streak. LeAndre Moore again will be the starter at tailback. He led the team in rushing with 884 yards and seven touchdowns. Moore began the season as the primary running threat, but the Cardinals switched to a three-man rotation at tailback after their production slipped to about 100 yards a game early in the year. James Terrell gained 468 yards and had five touchdowns on 100 carries, and Kevin Cartwright added 380 yards in 87 attempts. All told, the tailback trio of Moore, Terrell and Cartwright combined to rush for 1,732 yards in 1997.

The Cardinals like to spread the ball around in the passing game, and Adrian Reese led the receiving corps with only 30 catches. Manuel Compas is most likely to start at the other wideout. Larry Davis was second in catches with 20 and averaged 23.1 yards per catch. Montez Currin provided a big-play threat. He caught only seven passes, but two went for touchdowns and he averaged 24.6 yards per catch.

Ball State suffered three major injuries on its offensive line last season, leading to a shuffling of players throughout much of the year. Starting right tackle Ryan Carter and tight end Dane Wheeler, a key blocker, went down before the season started. Center Eric Lows was lost in the third game of the season. All are healthy this season, which should be a plus for Josetti as he tries to put the passing game in position to give the running backs some help.

The main question marks for the Cardinals are on defense, where they lost eight

starters. Many of the newcomers who will try to win starting jobs lack playing experience. The most critical spot might be at linebacker where Ernest Pressley is the only returnee. Gone are Howard Simms on the inside and Jeff Phelps on the outside. They combined for 73 career starts. Marlon Llewellyn on the inside and Jared Wehrle outside are the probable replacements. They have never started a game.

The Cardinals also lost all four starters in the secondary. Karl Moore at one corner has some playing experience and Lowell Faison at strong safety played in six games last year before being injured.

**57**

Ball State has put 57 football student-athletes on the All-Mid-American Conference first-team Academic squad from 1985 through 1997. Central Michigan is next with 47 athletes earning recognition.

Ball State had the best rushing defense in the MAC last season, giving up an average of just 125.7 yards per game. The linebackers were a key component in that success, but so too were defensive tackle Damon Hummel and end Sunungura Rusununguko. They should anchor the defensive line this season. Hummel, a senior, logged eight tackles for losses in 1997. He has the ability to take on two blockers and clog up running lanes. Rusununguko had four sacks among his six tackles for losses.

Dependable placekicker Brent Locklear is gone, and his job might go to junior Haven Anderson. Michael Tinder is back after an adequate season as the team's punter in 1997.



## Damon Hummel

games, including a season-ending 35-3 shocker over West champion Toledo.

That sets the stage for 1998. The Cardinals would like to return to past glory (three bowl games since 1989, something no other MAC team can claim), and they like the way their early conference schedule sets up. If Ball State is to become a division title contender, its offense must carry a huge load early in the season.

Among the Cardinals' eight returning starters on offense are their entire backfield, their top receiver and four starters on the offensive line. The trigger man is quarterback Jake Josetti, who started for the first time a year ago. He had an inconsistent season in 1997, but the Cardinals are hopeful the year of experience will help him settle down and make better decisions. Josetti passed for an average of 142.6 yards per game and had more interceptions (14) than touchdown passes (13).

The Cardinals' running game ranked last in the conference midway through last season before rebounding in the second half,

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

WR 20 **Adrian Reese** (Jr., 2); 84 Montez Currin (Jr., 1)  
 LT 74 **Aaron Johnson** (So., 1); 78 Jason Bowman (Jr., 1)  
 LG 75 **Joe Schmitt** (Sr., 2); 69 **Matt Ehrhardt** (Sr., 2)  
 C 50 Eric Lows (Sr., 2); 57 Jeff Eager (Sr., 0)  
 RG 77 **Jason Hasty** (Sr., 1); 59 Chad Ludwig (So., 1)  
 RT 60 Ryan Carter (Jr., 0); 73 Jeff Thiel (So., 1)  
 TE 82 Dane Wheeler (Sr., 2); 89 Jimmy Place (Jr., 1)  
 QB 15 **Jake Josetti** (Jr., 1); 9 Brian Conn (Fr., 0)  
 FB 32 **Mike Pickett** (Sr., 3); 39 Billy Krueper (So., 1)  
 RB 41 **LeAndre Moore** (Sr., 3); 35 James Terrell (Sr., 1)  
 WR 1 Manuel Compas (Sr., 3); 29 Larry Davis (So., 1)  
 K 90 Haven Anderson (Jr., 0); 45 Kyle Corts (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (3)

DE 66 **Sunungura Rusununguko** (Jr., 2); 99 Bayette George (Fr., 0)  
 NT 72 Mark Zackery (Fr., 0); 67 Lavar Charleston (Fr., 0)  
 DT 98 **Damon Hummel** (Sr., 3); 64 Jarrod Mason (Sr., 0)  
 DE 83 Jason Arnold (Jr., 2); 92 Rachman Crable (Fr., 0)  
 LB 37 **Ernest Pressley** (Jr., 2); 10 Leceudus Thompson (Jr., 1)  
 LB 52 Marlon Llewellyn (Jr., 2); 46 Matthew Hefner (So., 1)  
 LB 31 Jared Wehrle (So., 0); 38 Gerald Palmer (Fr., 0)  
 CB 17 Pete Smith (So., 1); 3 Alger Boswell (Fr., 0)  
 CB 13 Karl Moore (Sr., 2); 25 Jason Teeters (Fr., 0)  
 SS 42 Lowell Faison (Jr., 2); 6 Luke Barnett (Fr., 0)  
 FS 14 Nate Andrews (So., 1); 27 Trent Harris (Jr., 1)  
 P 19 **Michael Tinder** (Sr., 1); 16 Kevin Jennings (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: **Bill Lynch**

Home Field: **Ball State Stadium (21,581)**

1997 Record (MAC): **5-6 (4-4)**

1998 Prediction: **2nd MAC West**



**U**nder first-year coach Gary Darnell, Western Michigan executed the greatest turnaround in the nation. After going 2-9 in 1996, the Broncos turned in an 8-3 mark in 1997. With 15 starters coming back this season, including nine on offense, the Broncos believe they can pick up where they left off in 1997. Western ended last year with six consecutive

Fullback Robert Sanford was a nice surprise as a true freshman in 1997. He set a Broncos record for freshmen by rushing for 1,033 yards, finishing third in the MAC. It was the first 1,000-yard effort by a Western ball carrier since 1988. Sanford was the MAC's Freshman of the Year and earned second-team status on the national all-freshman team.

The Broncos have one of the top tight ends in the MAC in junior Jake Moreland, who started the last two seasons. He led the team in catches last year with 36, gaining 406 yards and scoring three touchdowns. No Western tight end had caught more passes in the previous 10 seasons. The Broncos received good production from the backup tight end as well, with Frank Bosworth adding 11 catches for 103 yards and a touchdown.

Western had to rebuild its wide receiver contingent last year and four first-year players made an impact. Corey Alston led the way with 32 catches for 761 yards. His eight receiving touchdowns were tied for the third-best total in school history, and his yardage and TDs were the best ever posted by a Bronco freshman. Steve Neal (31 catches, 517 yards, six touchdowns), Mike

ference last season. The Broncos led the MAC in sacks with 41, 11 ahead of both Marshall and Miami. Senior tackle Dan Falcon was a second-team all-conference selection last year, and senior end Nate Wolkow was among the MAC leaders in tackles for losses with 13.

"We have good speed in our front seven," Darnell says.

**400** Percentage of improvement the 1997 Broncos enjoyed in the win column. After posting just two wins in '96, the Broncos went 8-3 in coach Gary Darnell's first year at the helm.

The Broncos lost two of their three starting linebackers. Jared Pike, a sophomore, should be at the outside spot, and Garrett Soldano should move up from No. 2 on the depth chart to play inside. Junior Scott Niles is the other inside starter and had 95 tackles last year.

The major concern on defense is the secondary. Although the Broncos lack numbers and experience there, junior free safety William Reed and junior cornerback Eric Nunlee are returning starters.

Brad Selent, who made 10-of-17 field goals last year, will compete with Louis Forbrich for the placekicking duties.

The Broncos must find a punter, and Mark Drago and Mike Meyer are the main challengers.

Darnell is enthused about the quality of walk-ons in the program. "They are, for the most part, players who turned down scholarship offers (at smaller schools) to try to play at the Division I-A level," Darnell says. "They have the size, speed and overall talent we want."



Western Michigan Univ.

## Tim Lester

victories, its longest winning streak since 1941.

"We finished at a high level, and it will be a challenge to see if we can start up at the same level this year," Darnell says. "We have a tough schedule, particularly in the first seven games.

"Our MAC championship hopes will be challenged early, as we'll be playing some teams in that stretch who feel they have a chance to win it," he says.

Quarterback Tim Lester is only a junior, but already he is making a move on several Western career records. He ranks near the top in five career categories: third in total offense (4,212 yards) and fourth in completion percentage (.567), completions (357), passing yards (4,349) and touchdowns (31). Lester, the MAC's co-Freshman of the Year in 1996, ranked fifth in the conference last year with 17 TD passes, and his completion percentage of .575 was third-best.

"Tim Lester has looked very good at quarterback," Darnell said after spring practice.

Hutchings and Darnell Jennings provide good depth at the position. Redshirt freshmen Micah Zuhl and Marco Wolverton should bid for playing time this year.

Tackle Mike Kershner and guards Paul Lambert and Charlie Knapp return to anchor the offensive line.

Western Michigan's defensive front seven was among the most aggressive in the con-

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

**SE** 1 Steve Neal (Jr., 1); 88 Darnell Jennings (So., 1)  
**LT** 75 Mike Kershner (Sr., 2); 64 Jeff Hinson (Fr., 0)  
**LG** 69 Charlie Knapp (Jr., 2); 62 Gary Nicklasch (Jr., 0)  
**C** 60 Matt Stover (Fr., 0); 61 Colin Greczek (So., 0)  
**RG** 52 Paul Lambert (So., 1); 54 J.K. Haehnle (Sr., 2)  
**RT** 76 Ron Acheson (Jr., 0); 71 Jason Cavanaugh (Sr., 2)  
**TE** 84 Jake Moreland (Jr., 2); 80 Frank Bosworth (So., 1)  
**QB** 13 Tim Lester (Jr., 2); 12 Jeff Welsh (So., 1)  
**RB** 33 Robert Sanford (So., 1); 30 William Henagan (Jr., 1)  
**HB** 28 Jesse Turner (Jr., 1); 38 Darnell Fields (Jr., 1)  
**FL** 15 Corey Alston (So., 1); 83 Mike Hutchings (Sr., 1)  
**K** 87 Brad Selent (So., 1); 14 Louis Forbrich (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (6)

**LE** 35 Eric Bettys (Jr., 1); 59 Marty Harig (So., 0)  
**T** 99 Dan Falcon (Sr., 2); 90 John Deming (Jr., 1)  
**NG** 89 Tom Rozema (Jr., 2); 95 Jeremy Johnson (Jr., 2)  
**RE** 93 Nate Wolkow (Sr., 2); 57 Larry Charleston (So., 0)  
**OLB** 53 Jared Pike (So., 1); 40 Tarrence Moore (So., 0)  
**ILB** 56 Garrett Soldano (So., 1); 51 Todd Whitaker (Sr., 2)  
**ILB** 32 Scott Niles (Jr., 2); 48 Scott Selzer (So., 1)  
**CB** 2 Ronald Rogers (So., 0); 10 Calvin Harley (Jr., 2)  
**SS** 5 Reggie Thompson (Sr., 3); 27 Steve Adams (Fr., 0)  
**FS** 21 William Reed (Jr., 2); 16 Wes Dodson (Fr., 0)  
**P** 17 Mark Drago (Sr., 1); 84 Mike Meyer (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach:** Gary Darnell  
**Home Field:** Waldo Stadium (30,200)

**1997 Record (MAC):** 8-3 (6-2)  
**1998 Prediction:** 3rd MAC West



**T**wo years ago, the only game Northern Illinois won was against Arkansas State. Last year, Southwestern Louisiana's only victory came against those same Indians. A coaching transition contributed not only to a 2-9 record in 1997, but also to a woeful defense that finished near the bottom of the NCAA charts in almost every statistical category.



rushing for 846 yards as a freshman in 1996, he was relegated to second team a year ago and still led the team, albeit with just 386 yards.

Junior Jason Allcorn is the incumbent at fullback, but sophomore Jacquis Walker, a 6-foot, 235-pound load, could end up as the starter at either position.

Then there is freshman Jonathan Adams, a *Parade* All-American who rushed for 2,227 yards and 38 touchdowns last year as a high school senior. Coach Joe Hollis struck gold in his second recruiting class at Arkansas State with the addition of Adams, the top-rated back in the Southeast. Adams ran for 6,714 yards during his high school career. Look for Adams at tailback and Walker at fullback with Zachery and Allcorn, two former starters, in reserve.

Senior Lennie Johnson, like Zachery just 5-8 but blessed with great speed, and sophomore David Westbrook return at the wideouts.

But junior J.J. Washington is expected back at full speed from a knee injury and could supplant Westbrook.

Junior Ron Teat ranked among the nation's top 10 tight ends in both receptions (30) and yards (430).

One of the best-kept secrets in college football is senior tackle Todd Frohbieter, a mainstay of Arkansas State's offensive line. But he is no secret to NFL scouts. At 6-6, 325 pounds — and with good footwork and technique to go with his massive size — Frohbieter has been guarding ASU quarterbacks' blind side as the starter at left tackle for three years and has never surrendered a sack.

A pair of 300-pounders, junior Justin

Rhodes and sophomore Jamie Pond, return at the guards along with sophomore Jack Wright at center.

Redshirt-freshman Garrick Jones will fill the vacancy at right tackle.

The Indians' smallish defensive line was manhandled to the tune of 233.8 rushing yards per game (101st nationally) in '97. Senior Clarence Williams enters his third year as a starter at end, with senior Matt Smith and junior MaQuonzie Thomas back at tackle.

Linebacking looks to be a strong position for Arkansas State. Senior Koetter Little is the top returning tackler and the leader of the defense. Sophomore Segun Ajigbada, a full-time starter and fourth-leading tackler last year as a true freshman, racked up three tackles for loss and a sack.

**6**

Although he has been coaching for 25 years, Joe Hollis has only earned six victories as a head coach. His other foray into coaching took place in 1984 when he coached Jacksonville State University to a 4-5-1 mark.

## Cleo Lemon

But that era of futility could be ending thanks to second-year coach Joe Hollis, who is giving fans a reason for optimism. Hollis arrived in Jonesboro after six years as offensive coordinator at Ohio State, where his juggernauts were among the most explosive in the Big Ten.

The Indians' 1998 schedule is challenging but not unwieldy, the talent level is higher than last year's record indicates, and nine starters return on each side of the ball. If Hollis can fortify his defensive line, Arkansas State is capable of a major turnaround in 1998.

Cleo Lemon, a 6-2, 210-pound athlete who looks to pass first but can run if necessary, was the starter at quarterback by mid-season as a true freshman.

With experience and confidence, his completion percentage (.439) and touchdown-to-interception ratio (.75) are bound to improve.

Diminutive (5-8) junior Lamont Zachery has the most experience at tailback. Zachery's main attribute is raw speed. After

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

WR 19 Lennie Johnson (Sr., 3); 88 Mike Lary (So., 1)  
 LT 77 Todd Frohbieter (Sr., 3); 63 Patrick Birdwell (Jr., 1)  
 LG 73 Jamie Pond (So., 1); 52 Lann Wilf (Sr., 1)  
 C 50 Jack Wright (So., 1); 51 Sean Burdick (Sr., 1)  
 RG 60 Justin Rhodes (Jr., 2); 70 Solomon Thomas (Jr., 0)  
 RT 68 Garrick Jones (Fr., 0); 69 Joe O'Bar (So., 1)  
 TE 87 Ron Teat (Jr., 2); 89 Anwar Cooper (So., 1)  
 QB 12 Cleo Lemon (So., 1); 13 Jeremie Watkins (Sr., 2)  
 FB 39 Jacquis Walker (So., 1); 41 Jason Allcorn (Jr., 2)  
 RB Jonathan Adams (Fr., 0); 32 Lamont Zachery (Jr., 2)  
 WR 22 J.J. Washington (Jr., 2); 18 David Westbrook (So., 1)  
 K 86 Jeff Sowell (Jr., 1); 15 Andy McPherson (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (9)

DE 90 Clarence Williams (Sr., 3); 53 Kevin Brazile (Sr., 3)  
 NT 59 Matt Smith (Sr., 3); 95 Sedrick Richardson (Sr., 3)  
 DT 76 MaQuonzie Thomas (Jr., 2); 91 Daniel Alvares (Jr., 2)  
 DE 92 Gary Hurt (Sr., 1); 94 Duane Alvin (Jr., 0)  
 LB 46 LeMarcus Harris (So., 1); 34 Scott Miller (Jr., 0)  
 LB 47 Segun Ajigbada (So., 1); 40 Andy Henault (Jr., 0)  
 LB 43 Koetter Little (Sr., 3); 57 Russell Seaton (So., 1)  
 CB 21 Chappell Mitchell (Sr., 1); 33 Isom Sharp (Fr., 0)  
 CB 27 Rodney Allen (Sr., 2); 25 Andre Brown (So., 1)  
 SS 1 Cornelius Cleary (Jr., 2); 8 Waldell Harp (Sr., 1)  
 FS 26 Sean Mitchell (So., 1); 6 Denishio Blanchett (Jr., 2)  
 P 86 Jeff Sowell (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Joe Hollis

Home Field: Indian Stadium (33,410)

1997 Record (Independent): 2-9



**A**ir Force played the best defense in the WAC all season, was ranked No. 10 in the country in total defense and made the Oregon Ducks look like they were facing no defense at all in the Las Vegas Bowl. After those mixed results, what kind of feeling did Falcon defensive coordinator Cal McCombs have about the 10-3 season? "Bad," he says. Actually, coach Fisher

Matt Farmer was a success story as a sophomore receiver, catching 23 passes for 380 yards; both totals were highs for a Falcon player in the '90s. Morgan is an accurate passer and Farmer and Dylan Newman can take advantage of defenses focusing on the option. The tight end is rarely used in the passing game, but junior Joe Ingram, a converted tackle, "could end up being one of the best blockers we've ever had at that position," Noblitt says.

Senior left guard Frank Mindrup is much bigger — 6-5, 290 — than the traditional Air Force lineman and will anchor the offensive line, while junior Michael Roberts appears solid at right guard. Peter Lington will have the first shot at center, but he may move to tackle, where Noblitt's job becomes both "a good challenge" and "a little frightening." Air Force lost not only the two starting tackles but also the two players behind them, and could turn to junior varsity players. James Norman and Eric Woodring will get the first shots at tackle, pushed by Luke Porisch, Ryan Knight, Rory Stein and Kevin Moffat.

While Noblitt is searching for tackles, McCombs is not giving away his. Senior Bryce Fisher is a relentless player. Shawn Thomas is not as mobile as Fisher, but is solid against the run. At nose guard, converted linebacker Jeff Haugh or shot putter Phil Johnston will take over.

Linebacker is another story. Air Force has to replace all four, including Chris Gizzi, two-time WAC Pacific Division Defensive Player of the Year. Pass-rushing star Steve Fernandez also will be missed, but Mike

Tyler has ability at outside linebacker and sophomore Corey Nelson is a track and field athlete who will compete with Travis Meidinger and Jimmy Martello.

C.J. Zanotti and Craig Thorstenson will handle the inside positions with Buck Hodgkinson and Billy Free as backups. Tyler, Zanotti and Hodgkinson are the only three of this group who played last season.

"Weak corner" is Tim Curry's position, not a description. McCombs labels Curry as talented as any cornerback in the last 15 years at Air Force. "Great quickness; tenacious" are some of Curry's attributes, and he used them to block five kicks last season.

**12.4** The Falcon defense allowed only 12.4 points a game during the 1997 regular season, making it all the more amazing that Oregon could score 14 points on two plays in the Las Vegas Bowl.

Free safety Jason Sanderson should have even more impact than before, with McCombs looking for ways to move him around the field. Cornerback Nishawn Smagh will compete with Anthony Jones. At the "Falcon" or strong safety position, Charlton Warren could find a home.

Senior Jason Kirkland averaged 43 yards a punt and senior Alex Wright made 12-of-22 field goals, including a 49-yarder. So the kicking should be decent again, and Air Force's knack for blocking kicks will scare every opponent.

Farmer excels on kick returns, especially kickoffs, having averaged 23.9 yards for 17 runbacks. He averaged 11.3 on punt returns, where he receives help from Sanderson.



John Betancourt

## Tim Curry

DeBerry and his staff found considerable satisfaction in those 10 victories. But McCombs was eager to use the 41-13 loss to Oregon as off-season motivation.

The Morgan quarterback tradition continued at Air Force as Blane Morgan took over where his brother Beau left off. Morgan, in his first season as a starter, was not as effective as his brother; Air Force was 11th in the WAC in total offense. "That experience will really help Blane," says offensive coordinator Bob Noblitt. "We can really open up and do some different things."

Fullback Charles "Spanky" Gilliam emerged as the Falcons' top rushing threat, with 741 yards. Gilliam became the first fullback to lead Air Force in rushing since 1990, and the Falcons won all five games when he and the other fullbacks combined for 100 yards or better.

Jemal Singleton was productive at halfback and Qualario Brown played well in the second half of his freshman season. The two combined for just 756 yards, but that should improve this season.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

WR	Dylan Newman (Sr., 2); Matt Farmer (Jr., 1)
LT	James Norman (Jr., 0); Luke Porisch (So., 0)
LG	Frank Mindrup (Sr., 2); Doug Charters (Jr., 0)
C	Peter Lington (Jr., 1); Matt Dayoc (So., 0)
RG	Michael Roberts (Jr., 1); David Hildebrand (So., 0)
RT	Eric Woodring (Sr., 0); Rory Stein (Jr., 0)
TE	Joe Ingram (Jr., 1); Ken Chandler (Jr., 1)
QB	Blane Morgan (Sr., 1); Cale Bonds (Jr., 1)
FB	Spanky Gilliam (Sr., 2); Jeremiah Laster (Jr., 1)
HB	Jemal Singleton (Sr., 2); Matt Rillos (Jr., 1)
HB	Qualario Brown (So., 1); Scott McKay (So., 0)
K	Alex Wright (Sr., 1); Jackson Whiting (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (4)

DT	Shawn Thomas (Jr., 1); Brandon Sokora (Jr., 1)
NG	Jeff Haugh (Sr., 1); Phil Johnston (Jr., 0)
DT	Bryce Fisher (Sr., 1); Monty Salanoa (Jr., 0)
LB	Mike Tyler (Sr., 2); Corey Nelson (So., 1)
LB	C.J. Zanotti (Jr., 1); Billy Free (Sr., 1)
LB	Craig Thorstenson (Jr., 1); Buck Hodgkinson (Jr., 1)
LB	Travis Meidinger (Jr., 1); Jimmy Martello (Jr., 1)
CB	Nishawn Smagh (Jr., 1); Carl Metters (So., 0)
CB	Tim Curry (Sr., 2); Anthony Jones (Jr., 1)
FAL	Charlton Warren (Sr., 2); Charlie Jackson (Jr., 1)
FS	Jason Sanderson (Sr., 3); Jason Blevins (Jr., 1)
P	Jason Kirkland (Sr., 2); Scott Gribben (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Fisher DeBerry  
Home Field: Falcon Stadium (52,480)

1997 Record (WAC): 10-3 (6-2)  
1998 Prediction: 4th WAC Mountain



It doesn't hurt that Northeast Louisiana coach Ed Zaunbrecher owns a degree in psychology.

He may find good use for it before the 1998 season opens. The Indians, coming off a 5-7 record, face a schedule that includes games at Florida, Kansas State and Arizona. On the plus side, the rest of the schedule is manageable.



**James Landers**

Both sides of the ball present good news-bad news situations. Ten starters return on defense, including the top two tacklers from a year ago.

But the absentee is end Steve Foley, who led the nation in sacks with 18½. The Indians' offense welcomes back eight starters. The bad news is, the quarterback isn't one of them.

Daniel Jeremiah and Bo Meeks, who shared quarterback duties a year ago, have both graduated. Sophomore Jason Grein, last year's No. 3, saw enough action in four games to complete 10-of-20 passes. His top competition is 6-4 redshirt freshman Andre Vige, who the coaches feel has high potential. Grein has the stronger arm of the two but is only 5-11.

At tailback, the Indians must find a way to replace Marquis Williams' 977 rushing yards and nine touchdowns, and the task might be accomplished by a committee of scabbacks.

Junior Kond Allen scored two game-winning touchdowns last season, against Cen-

tral Florida and, in overtime, at Hawaii. Senior Mike Mitchell, a dangerous punt returner, backs him up. Junior Richard Love finished third on the team in both rushing and receiving; he and J.J. Patterson, a converted wide receiver, will also carry their share of the load.

Senior fullback Alan Ricard led this year's returnees in rushing.

Senior Marty Booker is one of the best wide receivers in Northeast's history. He led the team with 44 catches for 621 yards and five TDs in '97.

Senior Tony Akins and junior Derrick Bridges combined for 57 catches and will continue to keep the pressure off Booker. Junior Chris Spencer is back at tight end.

Three starters return in the offensive line, with senior tackle James Landers and junior guard Shane Pittard holding down the right side, and 300-pound sophomore Rod Daniel back at left guard. Landers allowed only one sack in 365 pass attempts last year.

Junior Don Tillman takes over at center with sophomore Padraic McGinnis moving up at left tackle. The starting unit is solid, but depth is precariously thin.

Even on a defense as well-stocked with proven veterans as NLU's, losing Foley is a blow. Senior tackle Greg Morris will assume the leadership role on the defensive line. Junior Jonathan Foster returns at one end, while sophomore Ron Phenix faces the daunting challenge of replacing Foley at the other. Senior Mike Milton and junior Harvey Goins join Morris in an effective rotation inside.

Aggressive senior Sirl Wright leads an experienced group of linebackers.

Senior D.J. Davis and junior Desmond Beckwith man the outside posts with Wright in the middle.

Sophomore Otis Drew started five games, collecting 48 tackles, five for losses, before an injury cut his season short. Senior Marlon Turner, who is most adept at pass coverage, is challenging on the weak side.

Senior Brian Taylor notched 113 tackles though he didn't become a starter until midseason. He returns at free safety as does junior Travis Singleton, last year's early-season starter.



Northeast Louisiana has managed to win five games in a season twice since 1994, the year that its football program jumped to I-A.

Sophomore cornerback Pat Dennis picked off three passes and was named freshman All-America. He was the first player in Northeast Louisiana football history to earn an All-America status in Division I-A.

Senior strong safety Dee Jefferson, all 5-7 of him, has a nasty reputation as a hitter and broke up 10 passes. Sophomore Henry Whitehead returns in the corner opposite Dennis.

Senior Cory Babineaux was 9-of-13 on field goals and 23-of-25 on extra points. Junior Brian Fuchs averaged 38.4 yards per punt and planted 13 inside the 20.

Running backs Mitchell, Love and Allen, and wide receiver Akins handled virtually all of the returns last year. Love averaged 23 yards on 21 kick returns and Mitchell averaged 6.8 yards on 11 returns.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

SE 14 Marty Booker (Sr., 3); 83 Kevin Stevenson (So., 1)  
 LT 65 Padraic McGinnis (So., 1); 62 Derrick Sullivan (Fr., 0)  
 LG 66 Rod Daniel (So., 1); 74 Brian Garrett (So., 0)  
 C 71 Don Tillman (Jr., 0)  
 RG 64 Shane Pittard (Jr., 2); Jack Rozek (Jr., 0)  
 RT 77 James Landers (Sr., 3); 62 Derrick Sullivan (Fr., 0)  
 TE 80 Chris Spencer (Jr., 2); 43 Camaron Wynn (So., 1)  
 QB 17 Jason Grein (So., 1); 10 Andre Vige (Fr., 0)  
 FB 39 Alan Ricard (Sr., 2); 22 Antwan Holmes (Jr., 2)  
 RB 21 Kond Allen (Jr., 2); 20 Mike Mitchell (Sr., 3)  
 FL 23 Derrick Bridges (Jr., 2); 6 Tony Akins (Sr., 1)  
 K 13 Cory Babineaux (Sr., 3); 9 Justin Mink (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (10)

DE 50 Jonathan Foster (Jr., 2); 92 Mike Turner (Jr., 2)  
 NT 97 Mike Milton (Sr., 1); 96 Bartholomew Butcher (So., 0)  
 DT 88 Greg Morris (Sr., 1); 98 Harvey Goins (Jr., 1)  
 DE Ron Phenix (So., 0); Donald Malveaux (Fr., 0)  
 LB 35 Desmond Beckwith (Jr., 2); 45 Otis Drew (So., 1)  
 LB 51 Sirl Wright (Sr., 3); 48 Derrick Johnson (So., 1)  
 LB 16 D.J. Davis (Sr., 3); 46 Marlon Turner (Sr., 3)  
 CB 33 Pat Dennis (So., 1); 9 Emmil Johnson (Sr., 1)  
 CB 1 Henry Whitehead (So., 1); 29 Marlon Williams (So., 1)  
 SS 3 Dee Jefferson (Sr., 3); 34 Cedric Robinson (So., 1)  
 FS 25 Brian Taylor (Sr., 3); 24 Travis Singleton (Jr., 2)  
 P 27 Brian Fuchs (Jr., 1); 26 John White (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Ed Zaunbrecher  
 Home Field: Malone Stadium (30,427)

1997 Record (Independent): 5-7



**T**he Big West's Quarterback U. has an opening at quarterback. Nevada finished first in the nation in passing offense and fifth in total offense, but without the Big West championship. In fact, Nevada's 5-6 record was only its second sub-.500 finish in the last 10 years.

Former Nevada quarterback and head coach Jeff Tisdell will start the season with

The strength of the Wolf Pack is at the receivers.

Noisy has caught at least five passes in 22 straight games. He has been over 100 yards receiving 14 times and over 200 yards three times. He led the Big West in both receptions per game and receiving yards per game. Both put him in the top 10 nationally in Division I-A.

There's little drop-off, if any, between Noisy and Insley. Insley led the team with 19.5 yards per reception and Tisdell believes that he has the best hands on the team — high praise with Noisy around.

"If Trevor can touch it, he will catch it," Tisdell says. "I can only remember a couple of balls in two years that he did not make the catch if he was able to get his fingers on it."

The Wolf Pack return a talented workhorse in running back Chris Lemon, who averaged 95.9 of the team's 109.1 rushing yards a game. Lemon set the Nevada school record for touchdowns and rushing touchdowns with 19. He rushed for 1,055 yards of the team's 1,200-yard total.

"Chris is as tough as it gets," Tisdell says. "He runs hard every carry and dishes out more punishment than he takes. You go to war with guys like Chris Lemon."

Matt Lasker, who had a medical redshirt in 1997, and Adrien Dugas will look to spell Lemon.

The only returning starter in the offensive line, Ryan Scuffy, will move from guard to center to anchor the unit. Letterman Cameron Norcross is the only other lineman with actual game experience. To help,

Nevada signed a handful of junior-college linemen who enrolled in school in time to take part in spring drills.

Nevada has more big shoes to fill on defense. The two-time conference Defensive Player of the Year, linebacker DeShone Myles, is gone as is all-conference selection James Cannida. Without Myles and Cannida, Nevada will rely heavily on a fully returned secondary and the quick maturity of its defensive line.

**90210**

The zip code of 1998 signee Mo Jones who hails from Beverly Hills, Calif. Jones, a quarterback, is a multi-talented player who was recruited by Oregon, Arizona and New Mexico, but ended up at Nevada.

Two all-conference performers, free safety Reggie Mitchell and senior cornerback Don Morgan, head the secondary. The pair are the top two returning tacklers on the team, and each had a team-leading three interceptions.

Greg Oliver returns in the opposite corner, while sophomore Mack Carminer will return at strong safety, but he has been pushed to second on the depth chart by Deon McDaniel. Kenny Jackson, a safety last year, has been moved to linebacker, where a rotation including Jackson, Ken Sapolo and Dan Rockwell (both starters last year), Jason Burk, Aaron Taele and Andrew Ghio is taking shape.

Nevada will be looking to replace both their kicker and punter. Mike Phillips is expected to replace Jason McLean at punter. Transfer Brad Noble may push for the placekicking duties. Punt returns will be in the hands of either Morgan or Insley. David Burr will take kickoffs.



Joe Gosen

## Geoff Noisy

an inexperienced quarterback. Redshirt freshman Chris Olsen played sparingly when the departed John Dutton, the two-time Big West Offensive Player of the Year, and Eric Bennett were sidelined with injuries. Erik Stidham won the job in spring drills.

Nevada has put together a remarkable run in the '90s going 71-26 during that span and earning seven championships since 1990.

"Our first and foremost goal every year is to win the conference and get to a bowl game," Tisdell says. "But we need to clear the next hurdle — not only playing and competing with the name teams on the schedule, but getting over the hump and beating some of them."

The Nevada offense returns only five starters, but they are big ones, including wide receivers Geoff Noisy, the Big West leader with 86 catches for 1,184 yards and five touchdowns, and junior Trevor Insley. Tight end Darin Higgins was an All-Big West selection.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**SE** 4 **Geoff Noisy (Sr., 3)**; 12 Arthur Lloyd (Sr., 2)  
**LT** 76 Mike Wilhelms (Jr., 0); 63 Jeff Batrez (Jr., 0)  
**LG** 59 Cameron Norcross (Jr., 0); 65 Ernie Fierro (Jr., 0)  
**C** 68 **Ryan Scuffy (Jr., 1)**; 70 Andrew Siderius (Fr., 0)  
**RG** 66 Eric Harper (Jr., 0); 73 Rickie Stevens (Jr., 0)  
**RT** 72 Greg Cukrov (Jr., 0); 63 Rob Thayer (Fr., 0)  
**TE** 81 **Darin Higgins (Jr., 1)**; 84 Nathan Allen (Jr., 1)  
**QB** 10 Erik Stidham (Jr., 0); 13 Chris Olsen (Fr., 0)  
**RB** 33 **Chris Lemon (Jr., 2)**; 32 Adrien Dugas (So., 0)  
**WR** 87 **Trevor Insley (Jr., 2)**; 81 T.W. Cunningham (Fr., 0)  
**FL** 80 David Burr (So., 1); 81 T.W. Cunningham (Fr., 0)  
**K** 83 Mike Phillips (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (8)

**DE** 40 **George Brazil (Sr., 2)**; 48 Cedric Pittman (Jr., 0)  
**DT** 93 **Rick Cross (Jr., 2)**; 92 Jay Sandefur (So., 1)  
**DT** 90 Clark Roosendaal (So., 1); 98 Levi Line (So., 0)  
**DE** 49 Jace Hider (Jr., 1); 43 Jacob Silicz (Fr., 0)  
**LB** 50 **Ken Sapolo (Sr., 1)**; 54 Andrew Ghio (Jr., 2)  
**LB** 51 **Dan Rockwell (Jr., 1)**; 38 Aaron Taele (So., 1)  
**LB** 58 Jason Burk (Jr., 0); 5 Kenny Jackson (Jr., 0)  
**CB** 31 **Don Morgan (Sr., 3)**; 20 Christian Broussard (So., 1)  
**CB** 23 **Greg Oliver (Jr., 2)**; 2 Del Bates (So., 0)  
**SS** 8 Deon McDaniel (Sr., 2); 18 **Mack Carminer (So., 1)**  
**FS** 7 **Reggie Mitchell (Sr., 1)**; 9 Brian Laudermilk (So., 0)  
**P** 83 Mike Phillips (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach:** Jeff Tisdell  
**Home Field:** Mackay Stadium (31,545)

**1997 Record (Big West):** 5-6 (4-1)  
**1998 Prediction:** 2nd Big West



The last time New Mexico enjoyed back-to-back winning seasons, Rocky Long was largely responsible for the Lobos' success. This time, Long is charged with keeping things going. The former quarterback became New Mexico's head coach when Dennis Franchione and most of his staff moved to Texas Christian. So after winning the WAC Mountain Division

Without receiver Pascal Volz, Leigh will have to find another main target, and nobody on the team is established. Former quarterback Brian Messer is a probable starter, but missed spring drills following shoulder surgery. Seniors Che Johnson and Derrick Milner, junior Germany Thompson and junior college transfer Lawrence Lovett will compete for jobs in a scheme that often uses three or four receivers.

At tight end, senior Tommy Hemphill and sophomore Jonathan Burrough were mostly blockers in Franchione's offense, although four of Hemphill's nine catches went for touchdowns.

The Lobos started the same five offensive linemen in every game last season, when Leigh was sacked just 15 times. Two starters are gone, but junior guard Chris Wallace returns as the best blocker and possibly the strongest Lobo. Junior Jason Carson is the other guard and junior Josh Brown is the left tackle, with sophomore Jon Samuelson moving from guard to center. That leaves right tackle, where sophomore Chad Thacker will have the first chance.

The Lobos used 11 defensive linemen at four positions last year and only one was a senior. Junior Casey Tisdale had a strong showing in spring drills and will enter the fall as

one outside position and after a solid spring, junior Stacy Washington looks to have locked up the other side.

"The new scheme will allow our linebackers to blitz, as well as free them up to scrape to the ball," Long says.

The Lobos already had used a package with five defensive backs, and all five of last year's starters are gone.

Initially, the alignment will include senior strong safety Chad Smith, senior strong safety Antoine Wright, junior cornerback Marcus McDavid, junior cornerback K.J. Friday and sophomore nickel back Rantie Harper.

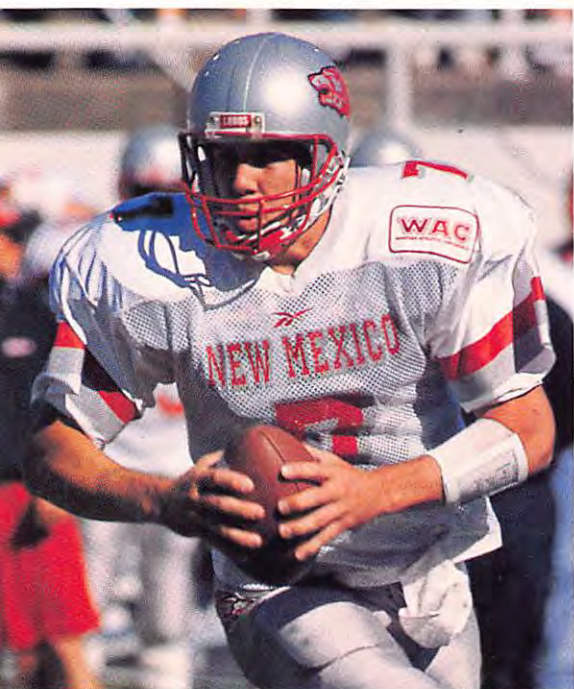
Junior Brian Urlacher has locked up the free safety position after finishing second on the team last season in tackles.

**1964** The Lobos have not posted more than two winning seasons in a row since 1964. Long's challenge is to maintain Dennis Franchione's success and deliver a third straight winning record.

Last year's level of defense will be difficult to maintain, unless the secondary comes together quickly.

Senior punter Jason Bloom not only averaged 43.7 yards last season, but was also adept at placing the ball. Bloom also kicks off, and less than half of his boots were returned last season. He will be backed up by senior Danny Gonzales.

While Bloom is available for long field goals, senior Mike Ross will do most of the kicking. Smith handled every punt return last season, averaging 6.9 yards, while kick-off returns were shared by several players, including Marion and Reginal Johnson.



Robert Bunch

## Graham Leigh

title, beating BYU for the first time in 17 seasons and playing in their first bowl game in 36 years, the Lobos move to the Pacific Division. "We will do everything we can to keep the program going in the direction it is going right now," Long says. "I like going to bowl games."

Long's first Lobo team will be built around quarterback Graham Leigh and the kind of aggressive defense that Long was known for as a coordinator.

Having transferred from Pacific after the school dropped football, Leigh led the WAC in passing efficiency and was the Lobos' top rusher. Sophomore Eric Jaworsky is No. 2.

The Lobos are loaded at tailback, partly because Lennox Gordon, Reginal Johnson and Dion Marion all were injured at various times last season. That served to distribute the playing time, and they all showed what they could do when healthy.

Sophomore Kevin Leigh and redshirt freshman Jarrod Baxter will play when UNM uses a fullback.

the No. 1 choice at left end. Senior Barrett Garrison moves to nose tackle and senior right end Bill Borchers switches from tackle to right end. The Lobos will miss Blake Irwin, the school's No. 2 all-time tackler.

Sophomore Mike Barnett will take the lead as a middle linebacker in the new 3-3-5 scheme and senior Kenny Lewis will take

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

WR 13 Derrick Milner (Sr., 3); 29 Che Johnson (Sr., 3)  
LT 67 Josh Brown (Jr., 2); 76 Grant Skinner (Sr., 1)  
LG 73 Jason Carson (Jr., 2); 70 Jon Oliver (Fr., 0)  
C 78 Jon Samuelson (So., 1); 71 James Copple (Fr., 0)  
RG 79 Chris Wallace (Sr., 3); 63 Jared St. Aubyn (Fr., 0)  
RT 74 Chad Thacker (So., 1); 62 B.J. Long (Fr., 0)  
TE 85 Tommy Hemphill (Sr., 3); 82 Jonathan Burrough (So., 1)  
QB 7 Graham Leigh (Sr., 2); 14 Eric Jaworsky (So., 1)  
FB 15 Kevin Leigh (So., 0); 28 Jarrod Baxter (Fr., 0)  
RB 32 Lennox Gordon (Sr., 3); 26 Reginal Johnson (Jr., 2)  
WR 12 Brian Messer (Jr., 1); Lawrence Lovett (Jr., 0)  
K 11 Mike Ross (Sr., 0); 21 Jason Bloom (Sr., 3)

### DEFENSE (2)

DE 98 Bill Borchers (Sr., 3); 94 Travis Joumagan (Jr., 2)  
NT 90 Barrett Garrison (Sr., 3); 92 Randle Price (Sr., 1)  
DE 59 Casey Tisdale (Jr., 0); 49 Jason Purvis (Jr., 2)  
LB 37 Kenny Lewis (Sr., 1); 99 Anthony Teal (Fr., 0)  
LB 57 Mike Barnett (So., 0); 45 Daniel Reyes (Jr., 0)  
LB 54 Stacy Washington (Jr., 2); 31 Jacob Cockrell (Fr., 0)  
NB 4 Rantie Harper (So., 1); 45 Scott Gerhardt (Fr., 0)  
CB 36 Marcus McDavid (Jr., 2); 22 Walter Bernard (So., 1)  
CB 33 K.J. Friday (Jr., 0); 1 Casey Johnson (Jr., 0)  
SS 27 Chad Smith (Sr., 3); 46 Antoine Wright (Sr., 3)  
FS 44 Brian Urlacher (Jr., 2); 35 Daniel Torza (Sr., 1)  
P 21 Jason Bloom (Sr., 3); 10 Danny Gonzales (Sr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters BOLD indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Rocky Long  
Home Field: University Stadium (31,218)

1997 Record (WAC): 9-4 (6-2)  
1998 Prediction: 5th WAC Pacific



**A**fter the Cyclones began last season with six consecutive losses, Iowa State President Martin Jischke reaffirmed his support for coach Dan McCarney. The Cyclones went on to finish with a 1-10 record, their worst in McCarney's three seasons. Even though McCarney remains optimistic, Iowa State has gotten worse. The Cyclones were 3-8 in 1995 and 2-9 in '96.

Senior Kevin Wilson, who was moved from the secondary in the spring, junior Michael Brantley and sophomore Chris Anthony are among the many candidates.

At tight end, senior Damian Gibson caught 15 passes for 162 yards and is projected to be the starter.

The Cyclones need to shore up the offensive interior in order to alleviate the pressure on Bandhauer, who was tackled for 379 yards in losses last season. Experience will be a problem, as eight redshirt freshmen are among the candidates for playing time.

Sophomore Ben Beaudet, a starter at center, is the best of those returning. Junior Marc Cortez is highly regarded but injury-prone.

The rest of the line candidates, including Bill Marsau, Eugene Bernal, Josh Rank and Marcel Howard, are unproven.

McCarney, whose background is as a defensive coach, has been befuddled by the Cyclones' defensive shortcomings. They ranked 110th in scoring defense, allowing 44.8 points per game.

The solution to the problem begins up front, which is why five of the junior college transfers are defensive linemen, including Mike Dorise, who had 23 sacks last season.

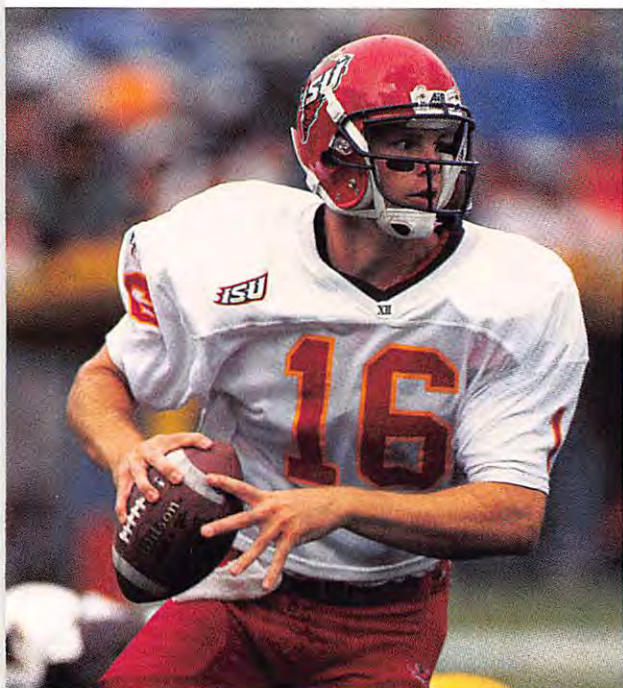
Sophomore James Reed was third on the team in tackles last season with 71, including six tackles for losses totaling 21 yards. The junior college transfers also will provide more bulk for what was the weakest part of the team a year ago.

Sophomore Reggie Hayward, one of Iowa State's most-publicized defensive

recruits in recent seasons, has a bright future at defensive end and possesses the ability to apply pressure from the outside. Senior Chin Achebe provides experience.

At linebacker, junior Dave Brcka, a co-captain in '97, was hampered by a knee injury last season. Sophomore Jim Morse is a returning starter. Transfers Lynn Hadnot and Jesse Beckom are expected to have an impact. Senior Kip King brings experience.

**42** The number of times Bandhauer was sacked last season. In many of those situations, he would have been better off throwing the ball away instead of taking the lost yardage.



John Belancourt

## Todd Bandhauer

In an attempt to stem the decline, McCarney is bringing in 18 junior college transfers. But fans face more frustration.

Senior quarterback Todd Bandhauer is big-time. He has good size, a strong arm and the ability to take a pounding, which he often did last season. He completed 180-of-374 passes for 2,514 yards, with only nine interceptions, and never lost his intensity.

Junior Darren Davis is an explosive runner. And like Bandhauer, he'll have to take a pounding and keep going. He was hampered by injuries last season but managed to run for 1,005 yards and five of the Cyclones' six rushing touchdowns.

Senior Joe Parmentier is a blocking fullback. Sophomore Jerome Heavens can play tailback and fullback. But a healthy Davis is essential to the running game.

The top three wide receivers have completed their eligibility, adding to the pressure on Bandhauer. McCarney will look to redshirt freshmen and junior college transfers to fill the void. But the Cyclones aren't likely to have much big-play potential.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

WR	1	Michael Brantley (Jr., 2); 86 Chris Anthony (So., 1)
LT	72	Bill Marsau (Jr., 2); 67 Cory Hannen (Fr., 0)
LG	71	Eugene Bernal (Sr., 0); 56 Adam Sansale (Fr., 0)
C	70	Ben Beaudet (So., 1); 73 Marc Cortez (Jr., 1)
RG	57	Josh Rank (So., 0); 77 Brian Donahue (Fr., 0)
RT	75	Marcel Howard (Fr., 0); 61 George Cunningham (Fr., 0)
TE	89	Damian Gibson (Sr., 3); 80 Andy Stensrud (So., 1)
QB	16	Todd Bandhauer (Sr., 2); 18 Sage Rosenfels (So., 1)
FB	42	Joe Parmentier (Sr., 2); 33 Jerome Heavens (So., 1)
TB	28	Darren Davis (Jr., 2); 32 Jerry Moses (So., 0)
WR	25	Kevin Wilson (Sr., 3); 82 Darryl Taylor (Fr., 0)
K	45	Jamie Kohl (Sr., 3); 6 Carl Gomez (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (9)

DE	15	Reggie Hayward (So., 1); 36 James Elmore (Jr., 2)
DT	52	James Reed (So., 1); 44 Ryan Harklau (So., 1)
NG	54	Andre Lee (Sr., 2); 88 Michael Jackson (Fr., 0)
DE	26	Chin Achebe (Sr., 3); 98 Nigel Tharpe (So., 1)
OLB	34	Jim Morse (So., 1); 50 Kipwana King (Sr., 3)
MLB	48	Dave Brcka (Jr., 2); 4 Lynn Hadnot (Jr., 0)
ILB	40	Jesse Beckom (Jr., 0); 5 Andy Moser (Fr., 0)
CB	14	Dawan Anderson (Sr., 3); 17 Jeff Waters (So., 1)
CB	20	Breon Ansley (So., 1); 22 Ryan Sloth (So., 0)
SS	7	Dustin Avey (So., 1); 24 Doug Densmore (So., 1)
FS	19	Kemp Knighten (Sr., 2); 9 Adam Runk (Fr., 0)
P	6	Carl Gomez (So., 1); 45 Jamie Kohl (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dan McCarney  
Home Field: Jack Trice Stadium (43,000)

1997 Record (Big 12): 1-10 (1-7)  
1998 Prediction: 6th Big 12 North



Is Memphis eyeing another 3-8/4-7 season this fall? You know, the kind of season the Tigers are infamous for.

Privately, coach Rip Scherer, who is 11-22 in three years at Memphis, hopes for 7-4. Publicly, he is a bit more cautious.

"I feel comfortable with where we are in terms of recruiting, public relations, the quality of players we have," he says. "What we

quick runner who averaged 87.6 yards in seven games, Arnold is hard-nosed and hits holes with great effectiveness. Redshirt freshman Jeff "Sugar" Sanders possesses what Arnold lacks: breakaway speed. And don't forget former starter Teofilo Riley, a solid utility man who will help.

At fullback, look for Jeremy Scruggs, following a one-year hiatus, to punish foes with his jackhammer blocking style.

With their intermediate and deep route skills, senior split end Richie Floyd and junior flanker Damien Dodson could conceivably total 800-plus receiving yards apiece and be C-USA's best pair of wideouts.

Scherer wants to call more timing routes, screens and tosses to the tight end. Versatile Darius "Boo" Blevins can be utilized as a back or end, while P.T. Jones has great speed. The primary tight end is expected to be sophomore Reid Hedgepeth.

Traditionally, Memphis has featured a smallish offensive line. Not so this season; the 11 main linemen average 290 pounds, not including former *Parade* All-American DeCoryre Hampton, a huge (6-7, 320) tackle who sat out spring work to focus on academics.

Scherer thinks redshirt freshman Artis Hicks, a guard, could be dominant. The veteran lineman is senior tackle Ron Sells, who moves from center to make way for senior Chris Powers. Powers could return to tight end if redshirt freshman Jason Austin can step in at center, or another lineman proves he can excel at tackle and moves Sells back to center. Junior tackle Lou Esposito, a fine drive blocker, and junior guard Tim Seymour are returning starters.

Junior Tavares Middlebrooks was named to the C-USA All-Freshman Team in 1996.

The Tigers have a reputation for tough defense, and Scherer says they'll "be better defensively than last year."

Along the line, there is a star in senior left tackle Marquis Bowling, an All-America candidate. Next to Bowling is underrated senior T.J. Frier. The ends are senior Manny Santibanez and junior Tramont Lawless. The four comprise a consistent quartet.

Memphis continues to feature fast, scrappy linebackers. The starting trio is composed of juniors Michael Boatman and Caspor Stiles, and Kamal Shakir, who was named a Freshman All-American by *The Sporting News*. Stiles is a diamond in the rough, while Boatman surprised many Tiger fans just by cracking the lineup.

**56** The number of Tigers who will dress this fall and have had a redshirt year, believed to be an all-time high for the Memphis program.

Mike McKenzie, a junior cornerback, is big-time (10 pass break-ups in '97). Free safety Jeremy Stewart and cornerman Keith Cobb, both seniors, are proven talents. Junior college transfer Larry Prentiss or sophomore Kosha Irby will complete possibly C-USA's best secondary, striving to improve upon a league-leading pass defense that yielded 161.7 yards per game.

Junior kicker Jim Cande shows solid accuracy but limited range, so redshirt freshman Ryan White should get the nod. Junior college arrival Ben Graves will battle Cande and Matt Adams for punting chores.

Dodson, Floyd and Jones will handle the return duties.



Dwight King

## Richie Floyd

need to do is start winning."

Clearly, this is a key season for Memphis. The Tennessee Oilers are gone, and the Tiger basketball program is gaining momentum. "This is a critical year," Scherer admits. "People have a right to expect results."

Quarterback is a question. Memphis is crying for some consistency at the most crucial position. Many die-hard Tiger fans hope sophomore Kenton Evans, a former prep legend, emerges. Intelligent and athletic, Evans would seem the perfect choice. However, he's injury-prone. Fellow sophomore Stephen Galbreath is gutsy but undersized.

The wildcard is redshirt freshman Neil Suber. Some close to the Tiger program say that Suber could be the answer.

"I'm trying to be as open as possible," Scherer says of the trio. "All three are as different as can be. I expect one to emerge."

Could Memphis have C-USA's top ground game? Overall, the Tiger backfield will have nice depth, balance and versatility.

Junior tailback Gerard Arnold was a second-team all-league choice. A deceptively

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

SE 5 **Richie Floyd** (Sr., 2); 33 Darius Blevins (Sr., 2)  
LT 64 **Ron Sells** (Sr., 3); 79 Tavares Middlebrooks (Jr., 2)  
LG 62 **Tim Seymour** (Jr., 2); 77 Julian Gibson (Fr., 0)  
C 3 **Chris Powers** (Sr., 3); 51 Jason Austin (Fr., 0)  
RG 65 Artis Hicks (Fr., 0); Josh Eargle (Fr., 0)  
RT 78 **Lou Esposito** (Jr., 1); 71 David Sherrod (Fr., 0)  
TE 90 Reid Hedgepeth (So., 1); 88 Billy Kendall (So., 1)  
FL 9 **Damien Dodson** (Jr., 2); 1 Ken Coutain (Jr., 0)  
QB 10 Kenton Evans (So., 1); 19 Stephen Galbraith (So., 1)  
FB 36 Jeremy Scruggs (Jr., 1); 46 Brandon Tucker (Jr., 1)  
RB 31 **Gerard Arnold** (Jr., 1); 35 Teofilo Riley (Jr., 2)  
K 82 Ryan White (Fr., 0); 89 **Jim Cande** (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (8)

DE 69 **Manny Santibanez** (Sr., 3); 72 Jarvis Slaton (So., 1)  
DT 91 **Marquis Bowling** (Sr., 3); 70 Calvin Lewis (So., 1)  
DT 96 **T.J. Frier** (Sr., 3); 54 Marcus Bell (So., 1)  
DE 50 **Tramont Lawless** (Jr., 2); 57 Rodney Lancot (So., 0)  
LB 52 Michael Boatman (Jr., 1); 92 Draper Hall (Fr., 0)  
LB 48 **Kamal Shakir** (So., 1); 45 DeMorrio Shank (So., 1)  
LB 7 Caspor Stiles (Jr., 2); 12 Ian Williams (So., 1)  
CB 4 **Mike McKenzie** (Jr., 2); 23 Fred Powell (So., 1)  
CB 6 **Keith Cobb** (Sr., 3); 41 Reginald Howard (Jr., 0)  
SS 27 Larry Prentiss (Jr., 0); 18 Kosha Irby (So., 1)  
FS 2 **Jeremy Stewart** (Sr., 3); 22 Jonathan Brooks (So., 1)  
P 92 Matt Adams (Jr., 0); 89 Jim Cande (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: **Rip Scherer**  
Home Field: **Liberty Bowl (62,380)**

1997 Record (C-USA): **4-7 (2-4)**  
1998 Prediction: **5th Conference USA**



**T**he Broncos' surge in Big West Conference (3-2) play let it be known that Boise State was back. First-year head coach Houston Nutt cleaned house and laid out the ground rules. It went over so well that Arkansas came calling and sent Boise State searching for its second head coach in two years.

Dirk Koetter inherits an up-and-coming



Boise State Univ.

## Bart Hendricks

team that brings back 10 offensive and nine defensive starters from a 4-7 ballclub.

"With 50 upperclassmen returning we have a lot of players with good experience and leadership abilities," Koetter says. "This group is very confident in knowing they can compete."

Koetter was the offensive coordinator and quarterback coach for two years at the University of Oregon prior to accepting the Boise State job.

By now Koetter has realized that Boise State's football players are accentuated by the newly renovated 30,000-seat Bronco Stadium. Bronco Stadium is home to the only blue AstroTurf field in the United States and last season was the site of the Humanitarian Bowl between Utah State and Cincinnati.

While on the playing field at Bronco Stadium, the Broncos boast experience all around, especially with returning tailback Gavin Reed, a converted wide receiver who took over the bulk of the rushing duties, and wide receivers Rodney Smith, who

ranked 20th in the nation with 64 receptions for 917 yards, and Tony Mamaril. Reed earned All-America honors at Citrus College in 1996.

Koetter's biggest decision will be at quarterback, where he has two proven starters. Senior Nate Sparks, a junior college transfer last year, earned the starting job and led the team in all-purpose yards. The fleet-footed Sparks will go up against sophomore Bart Hendricks, who threw for 1,121 yards and completed 52.7 percent of his passes in eight games.

At tailback, Reed led the team with 459 rushing yards. Nicko Tatum, the starter before an ACL injury sidelined him for the season, missed spring drills but will be back for the season. Before the injury, Tatum was averaging 5.9 yards a carry.

Depth is a plus for Boise State at wide receiver. Its top three pass catchers return, including Smith, Mamaril and key backup Corey Nelson. Jim Brekke enters his senior season at tight end.

Mamaril caught 22 passes for 332 yards and Nelson snagged 13 passes for 308 yards, 23.7 yards per catch and two touchdowns. Brekke caught two touchdown passes.

Six of the top seven players return to a mammoth offensive line. Senior left tackle Jermaine Belin (6-4, 325), an All-Big West first-teamer and a three-year starter, leads the group. Other returning starters include junior left guard Ryan Groneman (6-1, 301), junior right guard Jeremy Mankins (6-5, 324), center Joey Horvat (6-2, 277) and junior right tackle Keith Dilworth (6-5, 317).

Boise State's defense is small but quick. An experienced secondary will feature three safeties in the new multiple defense.

Jeff Davis is back for his third year as a starter at strong safety. He led the Broncos with three interceptions and finished second on the team in tackles with 62. He also handles the punting duties and averaged 38.7 yards per punt. His 81-yard punt against Washington State was the second longest in school history.

Free safety Ross Farris is a two-year starter. Dempsey Dees and senior Kevin Chiles both return at cornerback. Chiles had 56 tackles last season and Dees added 32 more tackles.



First-year coach Dirk Koetter took little time to make Boise State's presence felt in recruiting circles. He recruited student-athletes from eight different states and one Canadian province. Only one of the 23 recruits was from Idaho.

Bryan Johnson leads a core of now-experienced linebackers.

He led the Broncos in tackles with 85 and had two interceptions for 60 yards and one touchdown. Tyrer Dayton was a solid performer last season and will start in the two-linebacker set. The Broncos' big loss on defense is sack leader Brian Steger at defensive end. Junior left tackle Jon Rydman led the team with nine tackles behind the line of scrimmage. Senior right tackle Bobby Setzer and left end Faraja Greathouse are also returning starters.

Team scoring leader Todd Belcastro returns for his senior season after hitting a league-high 15-of-21 field goal attempts, including a career long of 50 yards.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (10)

WR 5 Rodney Smith (Sr., 1); 87 Mike Davison (Jr., 2)  
LT 67 Jermaine Belin (Sr., 3); 71 Derek Olley (Fr., 0)  
LG 64 Ryan Groneman (Jr., 2); 60 Jarrod Renner (Sr., 1)  
C 57 Joey Horvat (Jr., 2); 76 Matt Navest (Fr., 0)  
RG 61 Jeremy Mankins (Jr., 2); 70 Greg Klum (Jr., 2)  
RT 79 Keith Dilworth (Jr., 2); 74 Willie Van Gorder (Jr., 0)  
TE 88 Jim Brekke (Sr., 3); 44 Ron Pound (Sr., 3)  
QB 17 Bart Hendricks (So., 1); 1 Nate Sparks (Sr., 1)  
FB 19 Brad Aron (Sr., 1); 36 Brad Lords (Fr., 0)  
RB 29 Gavin Reed (Sr., 1); 24 Eron Hurley (Sr., 3)  
WR 84 Tony Mamaril (Sr., 3); 81 Corey Nelson (Sr., 1)  
K 14 Todd Belcastro (Sr., 2)

### DEFENSE (9)

DE 40 Faraja Greathouse (Jr., 2); 45 Derek Burrell (Jr., 0)  
DT 90 Jon Rydman (Jr., 2); 78 Bradly Phillips (So., 1)  
DT 93 Bobby Setzer (Sr., 1); 92 Matt Hill (Fr., 0)  
DE 69 Mike Maloy (Jr., 0); 52 Andy Bennett (Jr., 0)  
LB 34 Bryan Johnson (Jr., 2); 54 Shawn Sandoval (So., 1)  
LB 53 Tyrer Dayton (Sr., 1); 65 Rob Bennie (Jr., 0)  
CB 43 Kevin Chiles (Sr., 3); 22 Damon Bouie (Sr., 0)  
CB 41 Dempsey Dees (So., 1); 10 Damien Schilling (Jr., 2)  
WS 9 Isaac Henderson (Sr., 1); 3 Shaunard Harts (So., 1)  
SS 4 Jeff Davis (Sr., 3); 23 Aristotle Thompson (So., 1)  
FS 27 Ross Farris (Jr., 2); 7 Marcel Yates (Jr., 2)  
P 4 Jeff Davis (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dirk Koetter  
Home Field: Bronco Stadium (30,000)

1997 Record (Big West): 4-7 (3-2)  
1998 Prediction: 3rd Big West



In Mike Cavan's first year at Southern Methodist, the Mustangs replaced the Run-and-Shoot with an I-formation attack, contended for a division title, and recorded their first winning season (6-5) since 1986.

Gone from that team are a quarterback who is the school's career total offense leader, a running back who ranks first on

about the departure of leading rusher and four-year starter Donte Womack. Stepping into the void at midseason when Womack was injured, Adams rushed for over 100 yards in five straight games, finishing with 660 yards and a 5.3 average with nine touchdowns. Lining up in front of him is fullback Jeff Pennington, a bruising blocker who averages 5.4 yards per carry.

At wide receiver, Albert Johnson, who missed a substantial amount of time with injuries will step into a starting role. Sophomore Tony Newsome will be on the other flank after catching 20 passes last year.

With the emphasis on blocking strength, Clint Snowden will step in, despite the fact that he never caught a pass.

A major team strength, the offensive line averages 6-4 and over 300 pounds and is the main reason why the Mustangs usually controlled the game during the last half of '97. With the inclusion of guard Bill Holder — who started the season opener and then was shelved with a knee injury — it numbers five returning starters from tackle to tackle: Jerry Chavira, Trey Bandy, Austin Adami, Holder, and Jeremy Morgan.

Tackle Alex Pahulu, who started nine games last season, has departed on a Mormon mission, which leaves SMU with one returning starter on the front four on defense. That returnee, however, is Luke Johnson, an All-WAC end who had 87 tackles and 10 sacks and was a key factor in every Mustang win. Due to a rotation system, there are experienced players to fill the remaining gaps, including tackles Blake Perkins and Dan Merritt and end

Mercury Hall, along with Jason Faucett, a converted linebacker.

After switching to an aggressive 4-3 alignment, SMU had its best defensive showing (29th nationally) in 12 years, but the key ingredient — All-WAC middle linebacker Chris Bordano — has graduated. His job will likely go to Jason Simonton, fifth on the team in tackles last year.

Tyree Taylor returns at one outside post, but the rest of the alignment is up for grabs. Kenneth Imo and Roy Coats, a converted running back, are possible starting candidates, along with David Jefferson.

**14** Instrumental in SMU's success last year was an offense that committed only 14 turnovers. It was the fifth-best mark in the nation and, with 27 takeaways by the defense, gave SMU a +1.18 turnover ratio — sixth-best in the country.

In the secondary, SMU returns a seasoned quarter that was responsible for nine interceptions and 190 tackles last year. The leader of the pack is Jacoby Rhinehart, a second team All-WAC cornerback who had four interceptions.

Dewey Evans and Donald Mitchell split the other corner in '97, but this year Mitchell, who had three interceptions, will move to strong safety. Tracy Hart returns at free safety, where he had 75 tackles last year.

Placekicker Roy Rios returns after an outstanding rookie season. Incoming freshman Adam Walterscheid is expected to take over the punting duties.

Rhinehart had 13 of the team's 15 punt returns last year with a 7.3 average, while Phillips (20.7) was the primary kickoff return man.



**Luke Johnson**

SMU's career-yardage list and a middle linebacker who was the WAC Mountain Division defensive Player of the Year.

Back are eight starters from the school's most powerful offense in more than a decade, plus a ball-hawking secondary that helped give SMU the sixth-best turnover ratio in the nation. With 14 starters back from a team that won five of its last six, the Mustangs once again figure to be contenders. But there is also a grueling 12-game schedule without an off-week, and they will need a lot of new faces to get through it.

With the departure of Ramon Flanigan, the Mustangs lost most of the option potential in the offense — in addition to 7,437 career yards. Chris Sanders lacks Flanigan's mobility and spent part of the off-season waiting for a broken foot to mend. But Sanders, who threw for over 7,500 yards in high school, was also the Mustangs' leading passer in '97 with 678 yards and six touchdowns.

With the return of tailback Kelsey Adams, the Mustangs are less concerned

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

WR 6 Tony Newsome (So., 1); 87 Donte Womack (Sr., 2)  
LT 62 Jerry Chavira (Jr., 2); 67 Joey Slaton (Fr., 0)  
LG 63 Trey Bandy (Jr., 2); 65 Cory Fross (Fr., 0)  
C 70 Austin Adami (Jr., 2); 52 Richard Nichols (So., 0)  
RG 78 Bill Holder (Jr., 2); 75 Nkumu Mandungu (Jr., 1)  
RT 69 Jeremy Morgan (Sr., 3); 71 Jeff Erxleben (So., 1)  
TE 83 Clint Snowden (Sr., 3); 13 Chase Schavdra (So., 1)  
QB 12 Chris Sanders (So., 1); 16 Rand Holdren (Fr., 0)  
FB 46 Jeff Pennington (Jr., 2); 28 Rodnick Phillips (Jr., 2)  
RB 21 Kelsey Adams (Sr., 3); 28 Rodnick Phillips (Jr., 2)  
WR 5 Albert Johnson (Sr., 3); 80 Cordell Thornton (So., 0)  
K 10 Roy Rios (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (5)

DE 9 Mercury Hall (Sr., 3); 55 Jason Faucett (Jr., 0)  
DT 44 Blake Perkins (Sr., 3); 93 Jarrod Holmes (Fr., 0)  
DT 76 Dan Merritt (Sr., 3); 95 Chris Post (Fr., 0)  
DE 57 Luke Johnson (Jr., 1); 94 Sam Williams (Fr., 0)  
LB 19 Tyree Taylor (Sr., 3); 2 Kenneth Imo (Sr., 3)  
LB 36 Jason Simonton (Jr., 2); 59 Mike Lewis (Jr., 0)  
LB 98 David Jefferson (So., 0); 53 Corey Riley (Fr., 0)  
CB 3 Jacoby Rhinehart (Sr., 3); 18 Courtney Richardson (So., 0)  
CB 24 Dewey Evans (Sr., 3); 27 Lamonte Guillory (Sr., 3)  
SS 26 Donald Mitchell (Sr., 3); 29 Rafiq Cooper (Sr., 3)  
FS 20 Tracy Hart (Jr., 2); 4 Raymon Brown (Jr., 2)  
P Adam Walterscheid (Fr., 0); 10 Roy Rios (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mike Cavan  
Home Field: Cotton Bowl (68,252)

1997 Record (WAC): 6-5 (5-3)  
1998 Prediction: 5th WAC Mountain



In his first seven seasons as Bowling Green's head coach, Gary Blackney restocked open positions on his football team mostly with freshmen. But the Falcons' football fortunes have started to sink during the last couple of seasons, and Blackney decided he needed to get help at a faster pace in order for the program to make strides.

sophomore Chris Della Vella for one outside linebacker position. Redshirt freshman Khary Campbell and Willie Burton are bidding to start at the other outside spot. Joe O'Neill, brother of graduated Falcons leading tackler and middle linebacker, Kevin O'Neill, will play in the middle. Joe was second on the team in tackles with 96 and tied for the team lead in tackles for losses with 15.

Up front, senior Letoskey Carey and sophomore D.J. Durkin have starting experience at defensive end. Carey was fifth on the team with 52 tackles. Seniors Dan King, Dana Johnson and Willie Watson will contend for starting positions at the tackles. King is the most experienced player in the mix with 22 career starts.

The Falcons have two starters returning in the secondary, but the position was a problem area last season. Bowling Green surrendered 44 touchdowns (sixth-worst in the MAC) and intercepted a conference-low three passes while allowing 58 percent of opponents' passes to be completed. Junior Williams, a senior, will switch from free safety to cornerback this year. The tough hitter was third on the team in tackles with 85. Senior Morty Bryce will start at strong safety. Freshman Chad Long, who received a medical redshirt after breaking his right thumb last year, will start at free safety and sophomore Shaun Rice is a likely starter at cornerback.

The biggest problem on offense is with the running game, which ranked last in the MAC in '97 with an average of 86 yards a game. Blackney expects JC transfers Torrance Wilson and Steve Holmes to remedy

the issue and push seniors Robbie Hollis and Adam Lige.

Senior Bob Niemet returns at quarterback. Last season he improved his completion percentage from .435 to .520 and his quarterback rating from 94.1 to 112.6. He also threw for 200 yards or more on four occasions. Yet Niemet will have to hold off the challenge of sophomore Ricky Schneider, who started two games in 1997.

The receiving position is thin in experience. Sophomore Matt Bunsey is the only player who has played in a game for the Falcons. He caught only five passes in 1997, all in the last game of the year.



**Bob Niemet**

This year Blackney brought in his largest group of junior college players ever. Six juco transfers were among the 23 players who joined the Falcons in the February signing period.

"We put a real thrust of time and focus into some junior college players who could come in and hopefully make an immediate impact," Blackney says. "We've never had a junior college recruiting philosophy before last year, or maybe the year before that."

Most of these players weren't available for spring drills, and so their impact won't be known until fall. The three JC transfers in 1997 had limited success for the Falcons last season. Blackney and his staff are hoping this year's crop will be more productive. The newcomers will have to integrate with seven returning offensive starters and six on the defense. The competition should improve everyone's performance.

Billy Price of Hutchinson Community College was signed to add depth at linebacker, but the spring chart shows redshirt freshman Garry Fisher contending with

**13** The Falcons staff likes to recruit players from close to home. Of the 59 names on the roster only 13 are not from Ohio or a border state. Four of those 13 are from Canada, and one is a junior college transfer from Panama.

Probably the best group on offense is the line, where the left side starters, sophomore tackle Rob Fehrman and junior guard Mark Kautzman, return. Junior right tackle Chad McCarthy has 21 career starts and sophomore right guard Eric Curl is back after suffering a broken right foot early in the 1997 season. The vacancy is at center. Junior Doug Dorley, a transfer from Southern Illinois, is expected to win the job.

Both kickers are back to head up the special teams. Senior punter Andy Pollock saw his average fall from 41.7 to 40.8 yards last year. Junior placekicker Jason Strasser made 8-of-13 field goals. Weathersby could be a factor in the kick return game. He brought back a kickoff 94 yards for a touchdown against Western Michigan last season.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

SE 21 Leon Weathersby (Sr., 1); 83 Josh Siebenhar (Jr., 0)  
LT 79 Rob Fehrman (So., 1); Ben Batey (So., 0)  
LG 73 Mark Kautzman (Jr., 2); 64 Steve Rovnak (So., 0)  
C Doug Dorley (Jr., 0); 76 Matt Tyla (So., 0)  
RG 63 Eric Curl (So., 1); 55 Ryan Dipenbrock (So., 0)  
RT 62 Chad McCarthy (Jr., 2); 77 Eric Gilbo (So., 0)  
TE 88 Tony Holcomb (Sr., 3); 87 Kevin Steinke (Jr., 2)  
QB 12 Bob Niemet (Sr., 3); 1 Ricky Schneider (So., 1)  
FB 2 Adam Lige (Sr., 2); 43 Brent Martin (Jr., 0)  
TB 20 Robbie Hollis (Sr., 2); 39 Chris Hubbard (So., 1)  
FL 35 Matt Bunsey (So., 1); 80 Aaron Alexander (Fr., 0)  
K 11 Jason Stasser (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 44 D.J. Durkin (So., 1); Rodney Dawson (Jr., 0)  
DT 91 Willie Watson (Sr., 2); 70 Eric Zbinovec (So., 0)  
NG 9 Dana Johnson (Sr., 2); 45 Dan King (Sr., 3)  
DE 8 Letoskey Carey (Sr., 1); D.J. Owchar (Fr., 0)  
LB 28 Khary Campbell (Fr., 0); 10 Willie Burton (Sr., 1)  
LB 32 Joe O'Neill (Jr., 2); 46 Kinta Mitchell (Jr., 0)  
LB 47 Garry Fisher (Fr., 0); 49 Chris Della Vella (So., 0)  
CB 48 Shaun Rice (So., 1); 42 Trabian Turner (So., 1)  
CB 17 Junior Williams (Sr., 3); 42 Trabian Turner (So., 1)  
SS 25 Morty Bryce (Sr., 2); Sergio Land (Fr., 0)  
FS 26 Chad Long (Fr., 0); Chauncey Turner (Jr., 0)  
P 16 Andy Pollock (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Gary Blackney  
Home Field: Doyt L. Perry Stadium (30,599)

1997 Record (MAC): 3-8 (3-5)  
1998 Prediction: 4th MAC East



**L**et's dispense with the obvious. If quarterback Jon Denton isn't reinstated in August then UNLV has no chance to compete in the WAC's Mountain Division. Even with Denton, it may be a reach to think they could hang with Colorado State, Air Force and Wyoming. Denton has as talented a throwing arm as any quarterback in the country, but he's more

violation. Without Denton, Kevin Crook will start. During his two starts Crook had five interceptions and two touchdowns. With an unstable Crook, freshman Chris Hayward and career backup Chad Reed could get a look quicker than originally thought this season.

Coury Hankins emerged as a threat, rushing for four 100-yard games in one season, the first time that's happened at UNLV since 1987. His larger and more bruising partner James Wofford started the final five games and rushed for 170 yards in the season finale against San Jose State.

Wide receiver is the strength of the team. The three returnees boast a total of 387 career receptions among them. First-team All-WAC receiver Damon Williams is tied for the school's career receptions mark with 156. Len Ware could match Williams' proficiency. He led the team with 818 yards and six scores. Carlos Baker is back. He missed the spring with a bad back and could redshirt with Williams and Ware carrying the majority of the work. Sam Mineo gives Horton security at tight end with 15 interceptions.

Four of the five starters return on the offensive line with center Bubba Gonzalez, fourth-year starters Mike Reily and Jerald Pierucci at both guards to stabilize the line. John Greer will be moved from the right side to left tackle to replace the departed Ben Glidewell. Look for junior college All-American Glenn Pilarowski to start at right tackle.

This is the second year of playing the 4-3 alignment and Horton is hoping that there's a leap of improvement on the defensive side

of the ball. If there isn't, any offensive pluses will be negated. It starts with future NFL lineman Talance Sawyer, a first-team all-WAC player. Left end Roderick Jones bookends Sawyer and should give the Rebels a feared pass rush. The tackles will be Ted Darnell and Troy Kirkpatrick.

**107** The Rebels ranked 107th in the nation with a minus-17 count on turnovers, handing out 24 interceptions.



**Len Ware**

troubled than any other with a suspension-filled sophomore year that could cancel his junior and senior seasons. It's now up to the administration after he was kept out of spring football.

It doesn't help that the Rebels are facing their toughest schedule in school history with road games at Northwestern and Wisconsin, and a WAC schedule that includes a road game at Colorado State and a crossover game at Brigham Young. Remember, even with Denton on the roster, UNLV won only one game in 1996 and three last season. Yet with 16 returning starters, including one of the nation's top receiving corps there is room to be optimistic.

Denton, who threw at least one touchdown in a school-record 19 consecutive games, was suspended for breaking team rules in February. He was an All-WAC quarterback passing for 3,591 yards as a freshman and 2,586 in nine games as a sophomore. But he missed consecutive games against Fresno State and Colorado State because of a suspension for the same

The defensive pride extends to the linebackers where graduated two-time all-WAC Scott Patton's leadership will be replaced by Greg Gales, who brings 200 career tackles to the field. The weak-side spot will be filled by A.C. Smith while the bandit back is Jerad Pierucci. Dusty Pearce, a junior college All-American, will also find his way into the starting lineup. The Rebels should be more athletic at linebacker than at any time in Horton's tenure.

The biggest question mark on the team is in the secondary where the Rebels continue to get beat deep. All four starters return but that might not mean much. Randy Black led the team with three interceptions but he dropped twice that number. Amar Brisco and Mark Hays, both heavy hitters but beatable, are the corners. Quincy Sanders is the returning free safety, but all four starters should be pushed by newcomers.

Joe Kristosik is back as the punter but after a modest 37.8 punt average a year ago, almost five yards less than 1996. Tim O'Reilly has limited range as a kicker and made just 9-of-13 field goals.

Horton's not worried about returns with the fleet set of skill players at receiver.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

WR 8 Damon Williams (Sr., 3); 14 Nate Rydalch (Jr., 0)  
LT 72 John Greer (So., 1); Robert Grundy (Jr., 0)  
LG 64 Jerald Pierucci (Sr., 3); 66 Danny Pacheco (So., 1)  
C 76 Bubba Gonzalez (Sr., 2); 63 Aaron Hall (Fr., 0)  
RG 78 Mike Reily (Sr., 3); 74 Brandon Ellena (Sr., 1)  
RT Glenn Pilarowski (Jr., 0); 54 Brian Hart (So., 0)  
TE 89 Sam Mineo (Sr., 3); 83 Mike Leatham (Sr., 1)  
QB 5 Kevin Crook (Sr., 3); 11 Chris Hayward (Fr., 0)  
RB 4 Coury Hankins (Jr., 2); 33 James Wofford (So., 1)  
WR 16 Duane James (Fr., 0); 82 Carlos Baker (Sr., 3)  
WR 3 Len Ware (Jr., 2); 42 Sam Brandon (Fr., 0)  
K 17 Tim O'Reilly (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (8)

DE 10 Roderick Jones (Jr., 2); 39 Leroy Gambrell (Jr., 2)  
DT 70 Troy Kirkpatrick (Sr., 1); 91 Robin Maile (Sr., 1)  
DT 99 Ted Darnell (Sr., 3); 92 Derrick Monroe (Sr., 3)  
DE 9 Talance Sawyer (Sr., 3); 49 Alonzo Jones (Sr., 3)  
LB 25 A.C. Smith (Jr., 1); Dusty Pearce (Jr., 0)  
LB 44 Greg Gales (Sr., 2); 43 James Sunia (Fr., 0)  
LB 55 Jerad Pierucci (Jr., 2); 48 Tyler Brickell (So., 1)  
CB 6 Amar Brisco (Jr., 2); 26 Andre Hilliard (Jr., 0)  
CB 1 Mark Hays (Sr., 1); 24 Shaun Haslip (So., 1)  
SS 22 Randy Black (So., 1); 20 Kawika Batoon (So., 1)  
FS 2 Quincy Sanders (Sr., 3); 36 Anthony Brown (Sr., 2)  
P 97 Joe Kristosik (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach:** Jeff Horton  
**Home Field:** Sam Boyd Stadium (32,000)

**1997 Record (WAC):** 3-8 (2-6)  
**1998 Prediction:** 6th WAC Mountain



If Eugene Baker continues to make the same kind of progress this season that he did the last two years, defensive backs in the Mid-American Conference could get dizzy trying to keep up with him.

Baker was barely in the Golden Flashes' plans during his freshman season when he caught eight passes — all in the last six games of the season. He emerged to become

this year. Goebbel transferred and Davis is unquestionably the starting quarterback. A junior this year, Davis was nothing less than spectacular during his first year with the team in 1997.

He broke Kent records for most pass completions in a season (194), attempts (365), yardage (2,707) and touchdown passes (32).

Davis and Baker helped Kent build the third-most productive passing game in the MAC, averaging 294.8 yards per game.

Jonathan Williams comes in with plenty of game experience at the other wide receiver position.

An injury to graduated rushing leader Astron Whatley last season gave Charles Chatman and Marlon Gates an opportunity to run the ball. Chatman averaged 6.8 yards per carry and totaled 407 yards on the season.

Gates rushed for 184 yards and has earned the inside track out of spring drills.

Among the chief concerns for the Golden Flashes is on the offensive line. They lost NFL draft pick Bob Hallen and All-MAC performer Steve Zahursky to graduation.

One starter back on the line is sophomore left guard Jeff Krysiak.

He will team up with Mark Biehler, Duvall Braxton, Jason Hupp and Dan Goodspeed to form a young and inexperienced front.

Defense is where new head coach Dean Pees faces the most work.

Kent ranked 11th in the MAC in total defense last year, allowing an average of 488.8 yards a game.

The most experience on defense is in the secondary with all four starters coming back. Senior cornerback Wayne Shaw heads the group.

While starting all 11 games last year, he ranked third on the team with 62 tackles and a team-high three interceptions. He is the fastest player on the team running a 4.47 in the 40.

Other starters returning, junior Geoff Betts at strong safety and senior Eric Pierre-Louis at free safety.

There is a major concern with the front seven, considering Kent lost its two leading tacklers off last year's team in linebackers Roger Terry and Justin Sanford. The veteran

**9.36**

Wide receiver Eugene Baker led all NCAA Division I-A players in receptions per game in 1997 with an average of 9.36 per game (103 catches in 11 games). He averaged the nation's second best mark with 140.82 receiving yards per game.

of the returning linebackers is Curtis Witherspoon, but he's only a sophomore.

Up front, junior Brad Hartman and senior Dejon Young return as starters. Hartman has played both end and linebacker for the Flashes and is currently listed at nose tackle. He had 10 tackles for losses last season. Young is listed as Hartman's backup.

Kent's punting job is vacant since junior Matt Groff transferred. Freshman Jared Fritz secured a No. 1 position on the depth chart out of spring ball.

The placekicking job also is open, and the likely replacement is Dave Pavich. Shawn Shoemaker handled punt return duties last season. He averaged 9.2 yards per return.



Kent State Univ.

## Jose Davis

Kent's candidate for the Vern Smith Award as the MAC's Most Valuable Player after catching 69 balls for 1,215 yards and a then-league record 13 touchdowns as a sophomore.

By the time he completed his junior year in 1997, Baker had become the greatest pass receiver in Kent history.

The 6-2 senior holds every Kent receiving record after catching 103 passes for 1,549 yards and 18 touchdowns last season. He already holds MAC career records for yards (2,828) and touchdowns (31) and begins the season with 180 catches, two short of the all-time record.

Baker seemed to benefit most when the Golden Flashes changed quarterbacks last season.

Todd Goebbel suffered a concussion early in the season and Jose Davis replaced him for the rest of the year. Baker started getting Davis' first look, and the pair became one of the most exciting passing combinations in the MAC.

The two should be a dynamic duo again

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

**WR** 2 Eugene Baker (Jr., 2); 80 Shawn Shoemaker (So., 1)  
**LT** 72 Dan Goodspeed (Jr., 0); 78 Cory Zwick (So., 0)  
**LG** 62 Jeff Krysiak (So., 1); 54 Jarrod Vrabel (Jr., 0)  
**C** 73 Duvall Braxton (Jr., 2); 59 Jarrod Hoghe (Jr., 0)  
**RG** 60 Mark Biehler (Sr., 1); 64 Shane Farris (So., 0)  
**RT** 94 Jason Hupp (So., 0); 61 Victor Vrabel (Fr., 0)  
**TE** 46 Jason Gavadza (Jr., 2); 89 Conrado Ayala (Sr., 1)  
**QB** 6 Jose Davis (Jr., 1); 19 Zach Williams (So., 0)  
**FB** 20 Dion Gaston (Sr., 1); 32 Leroy Arrington (So., 0)  
**RB** 34 Marlon Gates (Sr., 3); 49 Charles Chatman (Sr., 1)  
**WR** 84 Jonathan Williams (Sr., 3); 3 Dedrick Paul (Sr., 1)  
**K** 1 Ben Hupp (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE** 14 Lavell Ellis (Sr., 3); 92 Rich Bender (So., 0)  
**NT** 90 Brad Hartman (Jr., 2); 93 Dejon Young (Sr., 3)  
**DE** 96 Chris Cogan (Sr., 3); 68 Mark Strickland (Fr., 0)  
**LB** 56 Ryan Altizer (Jr., 1); 87 Rick Abramowski (Sr., 0)  
**LB** 22 Matt Rayl (So., 1); 95 Morgan Cotter (Jr., 0)  
**LB** 57 Dave Holderbaum (Jr., 1); 33 Roger Powell (Jr., 1)  
**LB** 51 Curtis Witherspoon (So., 1); 67 Luke Rodman (Fr., 0)  
**CB** 36 Mark Harris (Sr., 1); 31 Benny Jones (Jr., 2)  
**CB** 7 Wayne Shaw (Sr., 1); 21 Murad Holliday (Jr., 2)  
**SS** 9 Geoff Betts (Jr., 2); 23 Tony Stites (Jr., 2)  
**FS** 25 Eric Pierre-Louis (Sr., 2); 42 Gary McCullough (Jr., 2)  
**P** 16 Jim Less (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters

**BOLD** indicates returning starters

NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dean Pees

Home Field: Dix Stadium (30,520)

1997 Record: (MAC): 3-8 (3-5)

1998 Prediction: 5th MAC East



In September, the UTEP Miners allowed 55 points to LSU and 56 to Utah, and it could have been worse. In November, the Miners held BYU to three points, and the Cougars could have stayed on the field all night without scoring a touchdown. "As the season went on, we got better and better," says UTEP coach Charlie Bailey.

That's hard to argue, even if all the

Amid the inconsistencies at quarterback, senior Jimmy Carpenter became a dependable receiver. His 80-yard touchdown catch sealed a victory over Tulsa and he led the team in all-purpose yards. Senior Keonta Golson will pair with Carpenter. Sophomore Allan Ray and junior college transfer James Thompson will vie for starting time.

The receiving corps in one year has gone from "poor to pretty good," Nord says. Brian Natkin and Clifford Johnston will share tight end duties and the Miners will develop schemes that use both of them.

The Miners have experience in the offensive line, even beyond the three returning starters. The issue now is improvement. Right tackle Alan Gray, center Carey Clayton and tackle-guard Robert Carter each started nine games or more, and left guard Brent Hunt and right guard Jeff Seeton were part-time regulars. Mike Deal, who moved from defense, had a solid spring and is established at left tackle.

Having spent seven seasons in the NFL coaching under Buddy Ryan, Ronnie Jones installed an aggressive approach when he became UTEP's defensive coordinator last season. LSU and Utah obviously were not impressed, but by November, BYU was. "UTEP has the most complicated

defense in the WAC," said BYU offensive coordinator Norm Chow. "They change fronts and coverages on every down."

The three linemen became the strength of the defense, and they're all back. Junior left end Brian Young and senior nose tackle Jason Smith finished among the team's top five tacklers (146 combined), unusual for

linemen. Right end Leif Larsen improved in only his second year of football.

Jones' scheme requires speed, and junior inside linebacker Eric Wells will help make it work. Dale Kirry, who had eight tackles and an interception against BYU, is solid inside on the left. Outside, junior Derek Wright missed spring drills with a shoulder injury but should start again. Hal Stansbury is back after missing last season with a knee injury, and Andrew Kelley will also help.

3

Before managing only three points against UTEP last November, BYU had scored a touchdown in 138 consecutive games. The 14-3 victory was a sign of the Miners' progress under coach Charlie Bailey.



Jeff Shaw

## Carey Clayton

improvement only resulted in a 4-7 record. The Miners were competitive in every WAC game after September, and appear headed in the right direction in Bailey's sixth season. Yet a tough schedule and questionable offense suggest another losing season in El Paso, even if the scores are closer.

In his first season as UTEP's offensive coordinator, Gary Nord went through four quarterbacks, mostly because of injuries. John Rayborn established himself as the starter before injuring his knee against BYU, so Rocky Perez finished the season. Both passers were erratic, but have a chance to settle into Nord's system and improve the team's 45-percent completion rate. Transfer Jason Stuckey, who originally played in Nord's offense at Oklahoma, is also capable.

None of the Miner rushers averaged more than 4.1 yards a carry, but junior Elzie Johnson, senior Joseph Polk and junior Paul Smith each rumbled for at least 432 yards and had at least one 100-yard game. Athlete Javier Sanchez will push them after moving from defensive back.

Spring drills did not solve all of Jones' questions in the secondary. Senior David Cotchery moved from left to right cornerback and will be fine, but Michael Hicks' decision to enter the NFL draft will force Darius Ellison or junior college transfer Nick Salinas to play and produce on the left side. Sophomore Matthew Fambro "runs well and covers a lot of territory," Jones says, and should thrive at free safety. Strong safety is a problem; Rachaude Crawford broke his arm during the spring. Sophomore Derek Walker is the starter for now.

Sophomore kicker Ricky Bishop endured a long rehabilitation after injuring his knee in October against Clemson. Miners kickers missed eight straight field-goal attempts during his absence. Matt Finley averaged 39.6 yards a punt, but UTEP was last in the country in net punting. Sanchez punishes opponents on kick and punt returns, dashing for 542 yards last season on 42 plays.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

FL 89 Jimmy Carpenter (Sr., 3); 11 James Thompson (Jr., 0)  
LT 56 Mike Deal (Sr., 2); 60 Robert Carter (Jr., 2)  
LG 75 Brent Hunt (So., 1); 76 Yancey Turner (Jr., 2)  
C 51 Carey Clayton (So., 1); 78 Mike Pry (Jr., 1)  
RG 79 Jeff Seeton (So., 1); 53 Brad Davis (Sr., 1)  
RT 59 Alan Gray (Sr., 3); 71 Jonathon Ruiz (Jr., 0)  
TE 87 Brian Natkin (So., 1); 84 Clifford Johnston (Jr., 2)  
QB 9 John Rayborn (Sr., 2); 17 Rocky Perez (So., 1)  
FB 39 Elzie Johnson (Jr., 2); 27 Paul Smith (Jr., 2)  
HB 20 Joseph Polk (Sr., 3); 21 Javier Sanchez (Jr., 2)  
SE 4 Keonta Golson (Sr., 1); Allan Ray (So., 1)  
K 18 Ricky Bishop (So., 1); Ola Kimrin (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 66 Brian Young (Jr., 1); 93 Darrion Yates (So., 0)  
NT 97 Jason Smith (Sr., 1); 55 George Banks (Sr., 1)  
DE 90 Leif Larsen (Jr., 2); 55 Joe Petronis (Jr., 0)  
LB 35 Hal Stansbury (Jr., 2); 62 Andrew Kelley (Jr., 2)  
LB 50 Dale Kirry (Sr., 3); 36 Courtney Ray (Jr., 0)  
LB 47 Eric Wells (Jr., 1); 46 Robert Weathers (Jr., 0)  
LB 52 Derek Wright (Jr., 2); 54 Chris Wade (So., 0)  
CB 16 Darius Ellison (Sr., 3); 5 Nick Salinas (Jr., 0)  
CB 2 David Cotchery (Sr., 3); 23 Anthony Sheppard (So., 1)  
SS 8 Rachaude Crawford (Sr., 1); 48 Derek Walker (So., 0)  
FS 24 Matthew Fambro (So., 1); 40 Rick Molina (So., 1)  
P 10 Matthew Finley (Sr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters BOLD indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Charlie Bailey  
Home Field: Sun Bowl (51,270)

1997 Record (WAC): 4-7 (3-5)  
1998 Prediction: 6th WAC Pacific



**H**ow badly do Temple fans want to see a winner after nearly two decades of futility on the gridiron? Consider this: When new Owls coach Bobby Wallace, a three-time Division II national champion at North Alabama, was introduced during halftime of an Owls basketball game last winter at Temple's new on-campus arena, the Apollo, he was greeted

Elmarko Jackson (645 yards) handles the finesse part of the duo's arsenal and is the more explosive of the two. Calvin Wilkinson and Victor Ford will see time at fullback in Wallace's offensive scheme and former starting fullback Brent Johnstone will back up Rahsaan Harrison at slotback.

At wide receiver, Kenyatta Carter, a Philadelphia native, has a track sprinter's speed. Wallace says he was impressed with second-year man Jerry Butler in spring practice and lauded the talent of Leon Washington, a junior college transfer who sat out last season.

In some ways the offensive line is the Owls' biggest strength and in others its biggest weakness.

The Owls return four starters from a unit that outplayed the defensive lines of Virginia Tech, Maryland, Boston College, Rutgers, and Western Michigan last season, but depth is a question at almost every position.

Wallace likes what he's seen on tape of center Charlie Morris and 6-3, 330-pound guard Scott Oster, 6-7, 322-pound tackle Tim Leach, and 6-4, 305-pound guard Konrad Dean. The Owls are also hoping for the return of J.J. Cardona, a senior guard who has missed most of the last two seasons with injuries and/or academic woes. Senior Kyle Benzio, a medical redshirt in 1997, has moved from tight end to fight for the tackle position.

Forget size and strength. Wallace is banking on multiple looks with multiple lineups to get the most out of his undersized defensive line. The starting assignments are wide open, although two returnees — end Michael Tripp and tackle Peppi Pichette —

seem safe. Badly needed bulk up front is available in the person of 6-7, 260-pound junior Jermaine Roberts, who has impressed Wallace as a potential All-American.

Linebacker could be the Owls' best area if Kenyatta Williamson, a 6-3, 260-pound former defensive tackle (65 tackles last year), is the new middle linebacker. A pair of returning starters, W. Deion McCallum and LeVar Talley, will flank Williamson at the outside spots.

**12,872**

Temple's largest home crowd last year. The game, a loss to Maryland, was played at Penn's Franklin Field, not their official home turf in Veterans Stadium. The Owls averaged a Big East-low 9,129 for five home dates last season.

The outmanned secondary could be the death of Wallace.

How many times was Temple burned by the long ball last season because Lamond Adams and Tom Indio, two hustling, over-achieving 5-8 seniors, just couldn't defend one-on-one against the pro-sized receivers that Miami, West Virginia, Syracuse and others threw at them last year? Too many for anyone cheering for Temple.

Fulton Fryar, the nephew of Philadelphia Eagles star Irving Fryar, and Jerry Urias, the team's leading returning tackler (94) will feel pressure to help the "little corners." If they can't, the Owls may not survive.

Carlos Johnson is destined to become the Owls' best return man since Paul Palmer in the early 1980s. Senior Dave Nicholl is back to handle the kicking duties and freshman Dan McManamon, who left spring No. 1 on the depth chart, may be the punter.



All Jorge

## Kevin Harvey

with a thunderous two-minute ovation.

Wallace has his work cut out for him.

The Owls earned just three wins last season and finished 0-6 on the road.

One of the first decisions Wallace made at Temple may have earned him another standing ovation from the fans.

Last year, many were dismayed when Kevin Harvey, perhaps the team's most celebrated recruit in history, was benched for much of the season in favor of the better passer, Pat Bonner. This fall, their roles will be reversed. Harvey, an electrifying junior option quarterback, fits in perfectly with Wallace's option offense, the one that carried North Alabama to three straight Div. II national championships from 1993-1995.

Harvey completed 21-of-38 passes last season for 253 yards and one touchdown. Those numbers could explode this season.

The "Mack and Jack Attack" returns intact. Stacey Mack (842 yards) is the tough, up-the-gut runner who made highlight films when he literally leapfrogged a Syracuse defender last season.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

WR 80 Kenyatta Carter (Sr., 2); 2 Jerry Butler (So., 1)  
LT 74 Tim Leach (Jr., 1); 77 Rick Williams (Jr., 0)  
LG 79 Konrad Dean (So., 1); 77 Rick Williams (Jr., 0)  
C 61 Charlie Morris (Sr., 3); 75 Bob Lynch (Fr., 0)  
RG 63 Scott Oster (Sr., 3); 59 Theo Ross (Jr., 2)  
RT 81 Kyle Benzio (Sr., 1); 51 Chris Pitt (So., 0)  
TE 86 Jamelle Steele (So., 1); Joe Khamis (Jr., 0)  
QB 3 Kevin Harvey (Jr., 1); 27 Greg Muckerson (Fr., 0)  
FB 30 Calvin Wilkinson (Jr., 1); 34 Victor Ford (Jr., 2)  
TB 1 Stacey Mack (Sr., 1); 33 Elmarko Jackson (So., 1)  
SB 26 Rahsaan Harrison (Sr., 1); 46 Brent Johnstone (Sr., 3)  
K 13 Dave Nicholl (Sr., 2)

### DEFENSE (5)

LE 72 Jermaine Roberts (Jr., 1); 94 Tomiko Godbold (Jr., 1)  
LT 55 Peppi Pichette (Sr., 2); 67 Mario Ayala (Sr., 3)  
RT 90 Mathias Nkwenti (So., 1); 67 Mario Ayala (Sr., 3)  
RE 56 Michael Tripp (Jr., 2); 43 Amores Intoe (Sr., 1)  
OLB 6 LeVar Talley (So., 1); 87 Fenton Graham (Sr., 3)  
MLB 98 Kenyatta Williamson (Sr., 1); 53 Akeiff Staples (So., 1)  
OLB 47 W. Deion McCallum (So., 1); 57 Ramon Budgetts (Sr., 1)  
LCB 29 Tom Indio (Sr., 2); 22 Fulton Fryar (Jr., 1)  
RCB 31 Lamond Adams (Sr., 3); 41 Rahmel Meade (Jr., 2)  
FS 37 Jerry Urias (Jr., 1); 23 Leon Washington (Jr., 0)  
SS 22 Fulton Fryar (Jr., 1); 45 Brian West (Fr., 0)  
P 70 Dan McManamon (Fr., 0); 26 Rahsaan Harrison (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bobby Wallace  
Home Field: Veterans Stadium (66,592)

1997 Record (Big East): 3-8 (3-4)  
1998 Prediction: 7th Big East



**T**hree months into his job as Louisville football coach, John L. Smith is feeling right at home. With a solid recruiting effort completed and sufficient time to adjust to his new surroundings, the affable Smith, who guided Utah State the previous three seasons, is ready for Cardinal football.

Clearly, Smith's new job and home will

With only modest backfield talent returning and with Redman firing away, Smith will often utilize a one-back set. Look for Frank Moreau to be the key carrier. However, the bruising Moreau is a step slow, so junior college arrival LeRoy Collins, Louisville's first back with sub-4.5 speed in five years, will push for minutes. Tendai Charasika has earned some time in the backfield behind Moreau and Collins.

Replacing wide receiver Miguel Montano will not be easy. However, back are a big-time tight end and some emerging young talent on the wings. Ibn Green led the nation's Division I-A tight ends in receptions (55), receiving yardage (731) and touchdowns (eight). Green shows great skill catching the ball in traffic and can run (13.3 yards per reception) after doing so.

Diminutive Arnold Jackson steps into Montano's shoes and is expected to enjoy a breakthrough season. Quick and fearless, Jackson averaged 14.9 yards per catch and hopes to top the 17.0 yard mark. His partners in the three wide receiver offense will rotate among Rico Williams, Lavell Boyd, Charles Sheffield and Yeasive Ware.

Three starters return on the offensive line in right guard Rick Nord, an All-C-USA pick, right tackle Mark Grivna (6-10, 330) and left tackle Anthony Byrd. The center should be P.J. Zariczny, with John Suski and Joe O'Shaughnessy battling for left guard.

There is concern on the defensive line directed at end. James Dennis is a super athlete, winning All-America honors as a discus

thrower, but somewhat green as a football player. The other end will be junior college star Reggie Hargrove, Randy Zilko or Ardante Dawson.

At tackle, the situation looks a bit better. Derrick Kennedy and Mike Gantous are a solid duo, with the latter having started all 11 games in 1997. Braxton Anderson was an All-C-USA rookie pick and is expected to earn considerable minutes.

There is no star at linebacker, but there is great potential with Rashad Harris and Bud Herring, both named to the league's all-freshman team. A wild card at linebacker might be converted running back Otis Floyd, who started the last four games at weak-side backer after only two practices.

**2** The number of historical series Louisville leads against its 1998 foes. The Illinois series is tied 1-1.



Brian Tippak

## Ibn Green

provide challenges for a man who has never worked nor lived east of the Rocky Mountains. After stints with western schools Weber State, Montana, Nevada, Wyoming, Washington State, Idaho and Utah State, Smith finds himself in Louisville, a city known not for mountain landscapes but for its Southern charm.

Furthermore, Smith's teams will have to fill the new Papa John's Cardinal Stadium (capacity 45,000) while competing in the ever-improving Conference USA, now indirectly affiliated with the Super Alliance.

Louisville will not finish 1-10 again, due in large part to the talents of quarterback Chris Redman. If Redman can adjust to his third offensive system in as many seasons, don't be surprised to see this third-generation Cardinal average more than 300 passing yards per game, which likely would rank him in the Top 10 nationally.

Redman's only deficiency is his mobility. If he improves his footwork even a little, he could be one of the country's best signal-callers.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

WR 10 Arnold Jackson (Jr., 1); 37 Rico Williams (Sr., 1)  
 LT 65 Anthony Byrd (Jr., 2); 62 Josh Richardson (Jr., 1)  
 LG 69 Jon Suski (Jr., 2); 77 Joe O'Shaughnessy (So., 1)  
 C 51 P.J. Zariczny (Sr., 1); 61 Aaron Dardzinski (Fr., 0)  
 RG 70 Rick Nord (Sr., 3); 75 Geoff McBarnette (Jr., 0)  
 RT 71 Mark Grivna (Jr., 1); 72 Walter McGary (Fr., 0)  
 TE 6 Ibn Green (Jr., 2); 47 Jeff Sholly (Sr., 2)  
 WR 82 Lavell Boyd (Jr., 1); 21 Danny Mosby (Jr., 1)  
 WR 88 Charles Sheffield (Jr., 1); 18 Yeasive Ware (Jr., 2)  
 QB 7 Chris Redman (Jr., 2); 11 Mike Watkins (So., 1)  
 RB 32 Frank Moreau (Jr., 2); 26 LeRoy Collins (Jr., 0)  
 K 23 Jon Hilbert (Sr., 1); 36 Nate Bennett (Sr., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

DE Reggie Hargrove (Jr., 0); 97 Ardante Dawson (Fr., 0)  
 DT 96 Derrick Kennedy (Jr., 2); 91 Braxton Anderson (So., 1)  
 DT 74 Mike Gantous (Jr., 2); 93 Anthony Bonner (So., 0)  
 DE 94 James Dennis (Sr., 3); 98 Randy Zilko (So., 1)  
 LB 20 Bud Herring (So., 1); 9 Caswell Goodman (Sr., 2)  
 LB 52 Rashad Harris (So., 1); 58 Jason Caswell (Jr., 2)  
 LB 17 Otis Floyd (Sr., 2); 33 Martise Corley (So., 1)  
 CB 27 Don Bibb (Jr., 2); 14 Dar-Shay Purry (Sr., 2)  
 CB 2 Rashad Holman (So., 1); 3 Antonio Roundtree (So., 1)  
 SS 41 Xavier Burrell (So., 1); 4 Brian Gaines (Fr., 0)  
 FS 19 Courtney Dinkins (Jr., 2); 42 Tony Stallings (Fr., 0)  
 P 38 Jeremy Borseth (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: John L. Smith

Home Field: Papa John's Cardinal Stadium (45,000)

1997 Record (C-USA): 1-10 (0-6)

1998 Prediction: 6th C-USA



It's only one game on the schedule, but with it comes hope that San Jose State will give itself a chance to be competitive. Out goes Rose Bowl participant Washington State. In comes Idaho. A road game at rebuilding Stanford and two nasty trips to Oregon and Virginia remain, but at least there is a chance for a win in the non-conference portion of the schedule and a possi-

the leading rusher. James Hodgins is a question after a season-ending leg and ankle injury kept him out of spring drills. Donte Scarbrough is another question after an injury-plagued career has left his status in doubt. That leaves untested Jeff Persson, the team's backup tight end last year.

The Spartan receivers are experienced, but are warmly referred to as the munchkins by coach Dave Baldwin. Oliver Newell was an all-Pacific Division selection after grabbing 58 passes for 942 yards and hauling in 11 touchdowns.

Waking Bailey and Gabe Payne were complimentary receivers who can at least give Vye options. Eric Ruhle, who caught six passes before being injured in the season opener, adds more speed. Unlike running back, there is competition for positions. Brandon Knapp has to be more involved at tight end after grabbing only seven receptions.

The gaping hole on the offensive line is at left guard, where the Spartans will be vulnerable to backfield penetration. The hope is that the left tackle will be solid with 6-3, 289-pound David Loverne, who Baldwin said ran a 4.9 for pro scouts and has the foot speed to contain the oncoming rush. The middle is anchored by three-year starter Harry Daniels, while Tom James and Richie

Castro, who was inserted into the starting lineup when the Spartans won four games in the WAC, can clear a few holes.

Baldwin believes the Spartans' most pressing concern is along the defensive line. Wisconsin, Fresno State and San Diego State ran right at the Spartans and chewed up their line. Tackle Abdul-Salam Noah is a

returning starter and the rest of the line will likely be anchored by four junior college transfers — Al Faamausili, DeAndre Harris, Steve Kappahn and Edgar Nava. Marty Peterson earned a spot in spring drills at defensive tackle but he is the most likely to lose his spot to a junior college player.

20

San Jose State finished in the Top 10 nationally with 20 pass interceptions. Each member of the Spartans' starting secondary returns.

Programs this far down aren't built on the first recruiting class, and Baldwin had to get some junior college linebackers to fill in holes. Sam Sherrod returns at outside linebacker, and Josh Parry is back at one inside linebacker. That doesn't mean much considering that the Spartans recorded just 22 sacks in each of the last two seasons even though they rose from 110th to 38th nationally in pass defense. Five other letter winners return but newcomers Amedeo Viola, Jeff Wucinich and Ron Acuna should give the Spartans competition at linebacker that they lacked a year ago.

The proven strength is in the secondary, where cornerback Omarr Smith was second nationally in interceptions with seven and free safety Lyle West led the team in tackles with 128. While Smith and West get the headlines, cornerback Ghalee Wadood and safety K.J. Agu return as well.

Placekicker David Silberstein took over the punting job in the final two games of '97 when Jason Chapple suffered a rib injury. He averaged 38.4 yards a punt but will be challenged by Nick Gilliam. The return game is intact with Smith and Bailey handling the punts and kickoffs.



Peter Brouillette

## David Loverne

bility that the Spartans won't be lost before the WAC season ever begins.

The Spartans haven't been .500 or better in the month of September since 1992 and it won't happen again this fall. But for the first time since the early '90s, the Spartans have players returning with significant experience. It won't be enough to be a contender. It may not be enough to keep them out of last place in a redesigned division that includes Utah and Brigham Young.

But at least there's hope.

Brian Vye had the reputation and the arm but he didn't have the consistency. Vye's back this year, and his 46.2 completion percentage will have to suffice for now. But he doesn't have a comfort level, with West Virginia transfer Bobby Sabelhaus and sophomore George Harp capable of usurping his power at the position.

At tailback, the depth, the consistency and numbers were in place, which was almost too good to be true at San Jose State. Turns out, it was. Carlos Meeks quit the team to pursue a music career and out went

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

WR 4 Oliver Newell (Sr., 1); 3 Eric Ruhle (Jr., 0)  
LT 79 David Loverne (Sr., 2); 73 Eric Bakkedahl (Fr., 0)  
LG 78 Jason Santos (Sr., 1); 77 Jose Gomez (Fr., 0)  
C 62 Harry Daniels (Sr., 3); 64 Bruno Contreras (Fr., 0)  
RG 63 Richie Castro (Sr., 1); 74 Chris Fe'esago (Fr., 0)  
RT 67 Tom James (Sr., 1); 74 Chris Fe'esago (Fr., 0)  
TE 83 Brandon Knapp (Sr., 2); 89 Jesse Rogers (Jr., 0)  
QB 10 Brian Vye (Sr., 1); 12 Bobby Sabelhaus (Jr., 0)  
WR 19 Waking Bailey (So., 1); 6 Shawn Green (So., 1)  
TB 5 Donte Scarbrough (Jr., 2); 35 Jeff Persson (Jr., 1)  
WR 22 Gabe Payne (Sr., 1); 86 Tanoga Banks (So., 0)  
K 39 David Silberstein (Sr., 1); 13 Zach McSweeney (Sr., 1)

### DEFENSE (8)

OLB 99 Cameron Delano (Sr., 2); 41 Jeff Wucinich (Jr., 0)  
DT 92 Abdul-Salam Noah (Jr., 2); 80 James Ditch (Jr., 2)  
NG 91 Al Faamausili (Jr., 0); 96 Jason Mitchell (Jr., 2)  
DT 94 Marty Peterson (Sr., 1); 95 John Hammer (So., 0)  
OLB 56 Sam Sherrod (Jr., 2); 66 David Coats (So., 1)  
ILB 48 Josh Parry (So., 1); 1 Amedeo Viola (Jr., 0)  
ILB 50 Alphonso Moran (So., 1); 46 Shonte Edwards (Sr., 1)  
CB 14 Omarr Smith (Sr., 3); 27 Anwar Johnson (Fr., 0)  
CB 2 Ghalee Wadood (Sr., 1); 23 Chris Lawson (Jr., 0)  
SS 7 K.J. Agu (Sr., 1); 30 Travis Seaton (So., 1)  
FS 31 Lyle West (Sr., 1); 44 Malakai Uhi (So., 0)  
P 39 David Silberstein (Sr., 1); Nick Gilliam (Fr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dave Baldwin  
Home Field: Spartan Stadium (31,218)

1997 Record (WAC): 4-7 (4-4)  
1998 Prediction: 7th WAC Pacific



**O**rdinarily, having 20 players with starting experience back is an encouraging sign, unless those 20 players were part of a 1-10 team the previous season. Such is the case with the University of Southwestern Louisiana football team entering 1998. Key injuries crippled the Ragin' Cajuns' offense in '97, costing them their best running back for the year,

Rogers — all return. Sophomore Darren Brister was the projected 1997 tailback starter after rushing for 545 yards in '96 to set a new USL freshman rushing record, but he spent all last season on the shelf with a knee injury. Joseph stepped in as a freshman and led the ground game with 532 yards while Lindsey contributed 503. Brister, who is back full speed, makes his living on quickness; Joseph is a slasher. Three battle-tested fullbacks are available for duty.

Senior Brandon Stokley entered 1997 on pace to become the most prolific receiver in NCAA Division I-A history. In his first two years (1995 and '96), Stokley caught 156 passes for 2,281 yards, but a knee injury in Game 4 ended his '97 season prematurely. In 1995 he was the most prolific freshman receiver in college football history with 75 catches for 1,121 yards and nine touchdowns, though he didn't start a game. A human highlight film renowned for circus catches and possessed of deceptive speed, Stokley's career totals now stand at 176 catches (57th on the NCAA career charts) for 2,529 yards and 17 touchdowns. He sat out spring contact work to avoid further injury and is expected back stronger than ever. And yes, he is the coach's son.

Sophomore Marcus Wilridge's job is to create enough mischief in opposing secondaries to draw coverage away from Stokley. Wilridge averaged 16.8 yards on 19 catches a year ago. Sophomore Anthony Dozier is a productive tight end (18 catches, 232 yards in '97).

A pair of 1997 starters, tackle Chad

Hakemack and center Ben Archer, both seniors, lead a host of experienced offensive linemen into 1998. Junior tackle Mark Lamere, junior guard Jason Boyer and sophomore guard Ryan Childers move up to full-time duty.

Seniors Randy Young and Jacco Cooper and junior Eugene Chambers will rotate at the two defensive tackle slots. Chambers topped all down linemen last year with 48 tackles. Junior Matt Merry, a converted linebacker, will hold down one end, with junior Danny Scott at the other.

Senior linebacker Chucky Woodall posted a team-high 68 tackles a year ago, but Texas transfer Jake Hammer earned top billing in the post-spring depth chart on the strong side. Dwayne Viator returns as a starter in the middle. Junior Gerald Stewart and sophomore Victor Hart add quickness on the weak side.

**7** The number of wins needed by Nelson Stokley to become USL's all-time winningest coach. With his 12-year record of 60-71-1, he is chasing Russ Faulkinberry's 66 career wins.



Southwestern Louisiana

## Brandon Stokley

one of the best receivers in the nation before midseason, and their top two quarterbacks. With everybody back healthy the USL attack could be explosive. The sternest task facing Cajun coach Nelson Stokley, who needs seven more victories to become the school's all-time winningest coach, rests on the defensive side. His stop troops finished 112th nationally — dead last — in scoring defense and 111th against the run. Stokley has hired defensive coordinator Miles Aldridge away from Arkansas, which happens to be USL's opponent in the Sept. 5 opener, to install a new defensive scheme.

Lance Domec moved into the starting lineup at quarterback last year as a freshman after Barton Folse and Brian Soignier both went down with injuries, and led the Cajuns with 72-of-143 passing for 925 yards and four touchdowns. But the depth chart has reverted to its pre-1997 configuration, with Folse, a junior, back at the wheel, Soignier No. 2 and Domec No. 3.

The top three rushers from last year — Elvis Joseph, Eric Lindsey and Baron

Senior Willie Terrell notched eight tackles for losses last year from his strong safety post. Desmond Williams, an athletic 6-3 sophomore, has settled in at free safety. Junior cornerbacks Charles Woods and Mark Sylvas nabbed two of the Cajuns' five interceptions in '97. A little more opportunism is needed from the secondary.

Junior Chris Shaw is slated for double duty after posting an effective 42.8-yard punting average a year ago. Terrell emerged as a capable kick returner with a 21.9-yard average.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (3)

WR	14 Brandon Stokley (Sr., 3); 30 David Dickerson (Jr., 2)
LT	73 Chad Hakemack (Sr., 3); 71 Greyson Augustus (Fr., 0)
LG	75 Jason Boyer (Jr., 2); 69 Nick Ruhman (So., 0)
C	68 Ben Archer (Sr., 3); 56 David Gaar (So., 1)
RG	76 Ryan Childers (So., 1); 64 Brandon Arable (So., 1)
TE	77 Mark Lamere (Jr., 1); 72 Andy Martin (So., 1)
RT	87 Anthony Dozier (So., 1); 86 Mark Buford (Jr., 2)
QB	15 Barton Folse (Jr., 2); 18 Brian Soignier (Sr., 3)
FB	40 Kelly Boudreaux (Sr., 3); 35 James Clement (Jr., 1)
RB	3 Elvis Joseph (So., 1); 21 Darren Brister (So., 1)
WR	85 Marcus Wilridge (So., 1); 84 Jeremy Joshua (Jr., 1)
K	27 Chris Shaw (Jr., 2); 99 Burt Bijeaue (Sr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

### DEFENSE (6)

DE	50 Matt Merry (Jr., 2); 91 Charles Brown (So., 1)
DT	55 Randy Young (Sr., 3); 74 Ryan Poisso (Sr., 3)
DT	63 Eugene Chambers (Jr., 2); 98 Jacco Cooper (Sr., 1)
DE	97 Danny Scott (Jr., 0); 52 Kenneth Stansbury (So., 0)
LB	13 Gerald Stewart (Jr., 2); 36 Victor Hart (So., 1)
LB	51 Dwayne Viator (Jr., 2); 45 Ron Payne (Jr., 1)
LB	41 Jake Hammer (So., 0); 46 Chucky Woodall (Sr., 3)
CB	10 Charles Woods (Jr., 2); 23 Mike Merchant (So., 0)
CB	5 Mark Sylvas (Jr., 2); 8 Curnell Schumack (So., 1)
SS	6 Willie Terrell (Sr., 3); 33 Steve Pinkney (Sr., 2)
FS	17 Desmond Williams (So., 1); 43 Matt Cieslak (Fr., 0)
P	27 Chris Shaw (Jr., 2)

Head Coach: Nelson Stokley  
Home Field: Cajun Field (31,000)

1997 Record (Independent): 1-10



**P**reparing for his first season at Texas Christian, new head coach Dennis Franchione has taken the precaution of not looking at last year's game films. This is not, however, an attempt by Franchione to shield his eyes from the carnage of a 1-10 campaign that cost Pat Sullivan his job.

"I really believe that in a new situation like this, it's probably the best way to han-

1,748 yards on 153 completions in 318 attempts. Canine has moved to safety; Dover has no experience running the option. The sleeper could be Kevin Colon, who threw only 14 passes last year after transferring from Texas A&M. He has a strong arm but also had option experience in high school.

The basic offensive set features a fullback and tailback, and at the latter position, TCU returns two players with skill and experience. Basil Mitchell ran 159 times for 719 yards last year, and has piled up 1,672 yards on the ground in two years. What might make him particularly valuable in the new multiple attack is that he has also caught 61 passes for 572 yards and five scores. LaDainian Tomlinson ran 126 times for 538 yards in '97 and was also used on kickoff returns.

"I like both of them," Franchione says. "We've discovered over the years that you can't get through the season with just one."

Lou Porch and Lance Williams return at fullback.

The two wideout posts will likely be manned by Torrie Simmons (27 for 314) and Tavarus Moore (20 for 214). Former walk-on Jason Illian — also a former wide receiver — could win the tight end job.

There is both size and experience on the offensive line. Tackle Russ Sanders is a returning starter, along with guard Shane Ladewig and tackle David Bobo. Greg Davis figures to be the starting center, while the other guard spot is contested between sophomores Michael Keathley and Robert Wallace.

Half of last year's front four is back, including end Aaron Schobel, who had 69 total tackles last year. The other returning starter is nose tackle J.W. Wilson. Kam Hunt, Raymond Lacey and Doug Shanks will battle for the end post vacated by Chance McCarty, the Frogs' sack leader last year with eight. They will also battle McCarty's younger brother Chad. Senior Kyle Williams and Shawn Worthen are competing for the other tackle spot.

**3** Number of bowl games in which TCU has played since 1960.

The new defense sheds a linebacker from last year's 4-3 alignment, but Franchione likes what he has on hand. Joseph Phipps, who had 90 tackles, will move to strong-side backer. Marvin Mullins and Cody Mortensen are battling for the other spot.

A key to the defense is the configuration of five backs in the secondary designed to cope with conditions in the pass-oriented WAC. As a major assist in helping the team adjust, Franchione has moved Eric Anderson from linebacker to the strong safety position.

A largely run-responsibility post, it is perfect for Anderson, who had 81 tackles. Barry Browning, a returning starter, and Andre Bruce figure to be the corners, while the weak safety looks to be junior Reggie Hunt. LaVar Veale and junior transfer Curtis Fuller are battling for free safety.

In Royce Huffman, at an average 41.6 yards per punt, Franchione inherits a solid punter. Sophomore Chris Kaylakie seems set at placekicker. Tomlinson and Hunt have both proven efficient on kickoff returns.



Robert Bunch

## LaDainian Tomlinson

dle it," says Franchione, who spent the last six seasons transforming New Mexico from a doormat to a bowl team. "In fact, I've also encouraged the (assistant) coaches not to look at the films. I just think that a lot of kids respond better to a new challenge if they can have the feeling that the slate is wiped clean; that the past is behind them."

One key to how far back TCU comes this year will be how quickly the team absorbs Franchione's inventive multiple attack and unorthodox 4-2 defensive scheme. There are eight returning offensive starters and six on defense from a team that was not actually as bad as the record shows.

The key to the multiple attack with which New Mexico averaged 32.5 points per game last year is, Franchione notes, the quarterback. It is an attack that looks like an I-formation with an extra wideout, and at the snap of the ball anything from the option to throwing the bomb is likely.

The job this year could go to any of three candidates. Jeff Dover and Derek Canine split the job last year and combined for

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

WR 83 Torrie Simmons (Jr., 2); 12 Royce Huffman (Jr., 2)  
 LT 54 Russ Sanders (Sr., 1); 71 Paul Harmon (Jr., 1)  
 LG 63 Michael Keathley (So., 1); 65 Robert Wallace (So., 1)  
 C 64 Greg Davis (Sr., 2); 69 Jeff Garner (So., 1)  
 RG 53 Shane Ladewig (So., 1); 62 Joe Briggs (Jr., 3)  
 RT 61 David Bobo (So., 1); 72 Jeff Millican (So., 1)  
 TE 37 Jason Illian (Sr., 3); 88 Travis Wilson (Sr., 3)  
 QB 4 Jeff Dover (Jr., 2); Kevin Colon (Jr., 0)  
 FB 22 Lou Porch (Sr., 1); 35 Lance Williams (Sr., 3)  
 RB 3 Basil Mitchell (Sr., 3); 5 LaDainian Tomlinson (So., 1)  
 WR 82 Tavarus Moore (Sr., 3); 1 Tim Maiden (So., 1)  
 K 80 Chris Kaylakie (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 48 Kam Hunt (Sr., 3); 56 Raymond Lacey (Sr., 1)  
 DT 95 Shawn Worthen (So., 1); 89 Kyle Williams (Sr., 3)  
 NT 75 J.W. Wilson (Jr., 2); 66 Marcus Anderson (Sr., 3)  
 DE 14 Aaron Schobel (So., 1); 55 London Dunlap (Sr., 1)  
 LB 49 Marvin Mullins (Sr., 3); 46 Cody Mortensen (Sr., 3)  
 LB 32 Joseph Phipps (Sr., 3); 41 Shannon Brazzell (So., 1)  
 CB 21 Andre Bruce (Sr., 3); 20 Greg Walls (So., 1)  
 CB 31 Barry Browning (Sr., 2); 36 Larry Hollingquest (So., 1)  
 WS 2 Reggie Hunt (Jr., 2); 28 Landry Burdine (Jr., 2)  
 SS 15 Eric Anderson (Sr., 1); 33 Russell Gary (So., 0)  
 FS 11 LaVar Veale (So., 1); 6 Curtis Fuller (Jr., 0)  
 P 12 Royce Huffman (Jr., 2); 16 Mike Cleavinger (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dennis Franchione  
 Home Field: Amon G. Carter Stadium (46,000)

1997 Record (WAC): 1-10 (1-7)  
 1998 Prediction: 7th WAC Mountain



**H**eading into his fourth season as head coach, Idaho's Chris Tormey hardly considers himself a dean among college football coaches. But in the Big West Conference, that's exactly what he is. Tormey, a former player and assistant coach at Idaho before taking over in 1995, boasts the longest tenure of any Big West Conference coach.



Joel Thomas

"Things seem to change year to year in this conference," says Tormey, who has guided the Vandals to one 6-5 (1996) and one 5-6 (1997) mark since moving Idaho out of Division I-AA's Big Sky Conference.

This year looks to be the most unpredictable conference race since the Big West reconfigured three years ago. "I think the conference is up for grabs," says Tormey. His coaching will be put to the test for the Vandals to have a good showing.

The best news the Vandals received during the off-season was the NCAA's granting running back Joel Thomas a sixth year of eligibility. Thomas led the Big West with 1,148 yards two years ago. That eye-opening season was sandwiched by two he missed with injuries. He dislocated his knee in the first quarter of last seasons' opener against Air Force. Thomas, a workhorse blessed with blue-collar work ethic, will be the only senior on offense, making his experience invaluable on a unit that looks to start nine sophomores and a new quarterback.

"Joel's leadership ability will be one of the best things we have going for us," says Tormey. "He's been a very productive player. He's been an all-conference player (1996)."

Leading rusher Anthony Tenner and Jerome Thomas (no relation to Joel) finally give Idaho depth in the backfield. Fifth in rushing in the conference, Idaho suddenly has a ground game to complement what has always been a potent passing attack.

The question is who will replace Brian Brennan at quarterback and keep the Vandals one of the most explosive passing offenses in the Big West and the nation. The quarterback to beat is 23-year-old sophomore Ed Dean, who spent two years serving a Mormon mission. Battling Dean is John Welsh, a redshirt freshman, and junior college All-American Greg Robertson. Robertson has the best chance to push Dean. He completed 188-of-316 passes for 2,797 yards at Ricks College, with three 300-yard games and one for 403.

Travis Stombaugh takes over at tight end for Jeff Pankrantz who lost a battle for a sixth season of eligibility despite overcoming cancer in his freshman and sophomore years. Ryan Prestimonico broke into the starting lineup as a freshman, and is Idaho's best returning wide receiver with 38 catches for 478 yards. He will be expected to fill the shoes of standout Antonio Wilson.

The Vandals should have a solid but young offensive line to protect whoever is calling the signals. Four freshmen started

last season and three others saw extensive action. Sophomore Brett Morton (6-4, 305) is expected to be the leader at left guard. Junior Brian Smith will take over for Crosby Tajan at right tackle, and sophomores Rick DeMulling (right guard) and Patrick Venzke (left tackle) gained experience as freshmen.

The defense, which loses five starters, will rely heavily on its experienced linebacker unit. Senior Ryan Skinner posted 132 tackles and finished second in the league in tackles for loss. He'll be flanked by returning starters sophomore Casey Hills and sophomore Chris Nofoaiga. The secondary figures to be in good hands with junior free safety Bryson Gardner (four interceptions), senior Kevin Hill and senior left cornerback Tom Rayner.

**33** The Vandals set back opposing quarterbacks by 221 yards in 33 sacks (6.7 yard average), tying them for 29th nationally.

The big test will come on the defensive line where James Durrough (6-0, 244) is the heavy hitter. He spent eight games at outside linebacker before moving to end and still had 10 quarterback sacks. Durrough replaced returner Nick Alexakos, but Alexakos should earn his left-side spot back with Durrough moving over to the right. Mike Roberg comes off a redshirt season to start at left tackle while sophomore J.J. Johnston is expected to start at right tackle.

Mike O'Neal and his 42.4-yard punting average returns. Ben Davis, the national junior college record holder after kicking a 62-yard field goal for Ricks College, joins the Vandals with three years of eligibility.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

**WR** 27 Matt McElravy (So., 0); 80 Ethan Jones (Fr., 0)  
**LT** 60 Patrick Venzke (So., 1); 76 Casey Campbell (So., 1)  
**LG** 62 Bob Harbaczewski (So., 1); 61 Anthony Fuentes (Fr., 0)  
**C** 52 Jeremy Wallace (So., 1); 68 Mike McAllister (Fr., 0)  
**RG** 69 Rick DeMulling (So., 1); 70 Brian Smith (Jr., 2)  
**TE** 66 Brett Morton (So., 1); 78 Josh Wright (Fr., 0)  
**RT** 85 Travis Stombaugh (Jr., 2); 89 Darick Pope (Jr., 0)  
**QB** 12 Ed Dean (So., 1); 13 John Welsh (Fr., 0)  
**RB** 2 Anthony Tenner (So., 1); 1 Joel Thomas (Sr., 1)  
**WR** 21 Ryan Prestimonico (Jr., 1); 47 Bobby Grey (So., 1)  
**WR** 15 Jeffrey Townsley (So., 1); 17 Jesse Taylor (Jr., 0)  
**K** 17 Jesse Taylor (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE** 37 Nick Alexakos (Sr., 2); 50 Ryan Knowles (Fr., 0)  
**DT** 86 Mike Roberg (Fr., 0); 92 Eric Balzer (Jr., 1)  
**DT** 54 J.J. Johnston (So., 0); 88 Jake Wimer (So., 0)  
**DE** 40 James Durrough (Jr., 1); 97 Matt Kramer (Jr., 0)  
**LB** 38 Chris Nofoaiga (So., 1); 34 Whitney Mayer (Sr., 3)  
**LB** 44 Ryan Skinner (Sr., 3); 45 Casey Hills (So., 1)  
**LB** 35 Matt Jaski (Jr., 2); 58 Jason Daniel (So., 0)  
**CB** 28 Tom Rayner (Sr., 2); 5 Andrew Uto-Uko (Jr., 0)  
**CB** 22 Dennis Gibbs (So., 1); 24 Husan Smith (Fr., 0)  
**SS** 42 Kevin Hill (Sr., 3); 26 Rick Giampietri (So., 1)  
**FS** 10 Bryson Gardner (Jr., 2); 18 Brad Rice (Fr., 0)  
**P** 19 Mike O'Neal (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Chris Tormey  
 Home Field: Kibbie Dome (16,000)

1997 Record (Big West): 5-6 (2-3)  
 1998 Prediction: 4th Big West



**N**orthern Illinois is certain it has already hit rock bottom — or as close as a team can get — and the only direction to go now is up. The Huskies didn't win a game last year, dropping all 11 to run their losing streak to a nation's longest — 18 in a row. They ranked 110th in the nation in total offense, averaging just 264.6 yards per game. Northern was 97th

As last year's merry-go-round suggests, Novak isn't afraid to change quarterbacks. Frisman Jackson, who started five games, and redshirt freshman Rob Harding will challenge for playing time.

Tailback Ivory Bryant had a good year on the ground with 828 yards. He carried 224 times and wore down at the end of the season. Mike Johnson broke into the two-deep standings in spring, while sophomore runner Geary Pryor provides some breakaway ability. When Bryant was slowed in the final three games, Pryor responded by rushing for 319 yards.

Senior wide receiver Deon Mitchell should help boost the passing attack. He caught 45 passes last year, most at the school since 1978, for 588 yards and four touchdowns. Sophomore flanker Justin McCareins should provide help at the wideout position. He was second on the team last year with 27 catches.

The Huskies lost two three-year starters on the offensive line in Jamie MacDonald and Kent Booth. Senior Bill Wise should provide some versatility, having played four offensive line positions in his NIU career.

Like the offense, the Huskies' defense will be young. But Novak thinks his defensive players will be bigger and stronger than they were a

year ago when they yielded an average of 34.7 points per game.

"I hope we're much improved and larger up front, that's where you need to be strong," Novak says. "We have to improve our pass rush."

The task on defense is to find a replacement for middle linebacker Steve Smith,

who logged 242 career tackles. Sophomore Kevin Selover probably will move to the middle after starting all 11 games and recording 92 tackles from the strong-side linebacker spot in his first season last year. Outside linebacker Perry Amoo made 75 tackles in nine starts last season.

**63** On September 19, 1992, the Huskies visited Arkansas State's home turf at Jonesboro and stomped the Indians 31-0. That was 63 games ago and the last shutout NIU has posted. The Huskies have been blanked five times since then.



Northern Illinois Univ.

## Deon Mitchell

in the country in total defense, giving up 427.6 yards an outing, was outscored 382-129, and lost the last game of the season 42-0.

If those numbers don't suggest rock bottom, Northern Illinois doesn't want to find out how much lower it could drop.

"We're on step three out of five," Northern Illinois coach Joe Novak says. "We're still one more good recruiting class away."

Mistakes were among the biggest obstacles the Huskies could not overcome last season. Their 16 lost fumbles were the second most in the MAC.

Improvement on offense has to start at the quarterback position, where the Huskies went through three starters before settling on Chris Finlen, who started the last five games and led Northern to a respectable 369.4-yard average in those games. Finlen is capable of throwing well in the short to medium range and can run some option. Of the seven interceptions thrown all year, Finlen put up five of them, so he isn't entrenched as the starter.

The Huskies return all four starters in the secondary. The group is headed by senior free safety Patrick Stephen. Cornerback Duane Hawthorne led the team in interceptions last season with three.

Up front, senior tackle Dan Stankowski was the team's top interior tackler last year with 48 stops. Right defensive end Orlando Bowen is an active player who recovered two fumbles and deflected four passes in 1997. Lewis Miskowicz will handle the left end.

Mitchell is one of the best kick returners in the MAC. He led the league last season with a 24.9-yard average in kickoff returns, one for a touch down.

"We ranked ninth in the nation in kickoff returns," Novak says. "Unfortunately, we got too much practice at that."

Senior placekicker Brian Clark didn't get many chances last year, hitting 6-of-9 field goals and 13-of-14 extra points. Junior punter Kent Baker improved his average from 35.8 yards to 40.0 last fall, but he still ranked only ninth in the MAC.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

**SE** 3 Deon Mitchell (Sr., 3); 81 Jerrold Anderson (Fr., 0)  
**LT** 78 Dennis Puralowski (So., 1); 76 McAllister Collins (So., 1)  
**LG** 61 Matt Cockrum (So., 1); 68 John Pederson (Fr., 0)  
**C** 59 Kyle Jakubek (So., 1); **55 Greg Merow (So., 1)**  
**RG** 64 Bill Wise (Sr., 3); 63 Jeff Winiarski (So., 1)  
**RT** 74 Ryan Diem (So., 1); 77 Mike Belmontez (Sr., 2)  
**TE** 80 Bobby Reed (Sr., 3); 40 Mike Stack (Jr., 2)  
**QB** 19 Chris Finlen (So., 1); 12 Frisman Jackson (So., 1)  
**FB** 39 Lou Sponsel (So., 1); 30 Terrence Tate (So., 0)  
**RB** 38 Ivory Bryant (So., 1); 22 Mike Johnson (Jr., 2)  
**FL** 85 Justin McCareins (So., 1); 10 Brendan Doyle (So., 0)  
**K** 17 Brian Clark (Sr., 3); Brian Grider (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (9)

**DE** 92 Lewis Miskowicz (So., 1); 58 Bob Leshner (Jr., 2)  
**DT** 93 Dan Stankowski (Sr., 3); 90 Rasche Hill (So., 1)  
**NT** 70 Anon Miller (So., 0); 95 Darian Tate (Fr., 0)  
**DE** 37 Orlando Bowen (Sr., 3); 35 Glen Bloodshaw (Jr., 2)  
**LB** 26 Marquis Stephens (Fr., 0); 46 Ryan Laurenti (Fr., 0)  
**LB** 42 Kevin Selover (So., 1); 55 Jason Bogan (Fr., 0)  
**LB** 23 Perry Amoo (Sr., 3); 44 Cameron Saulsby (So., 1)  
**CB** 14 Duane Hawthorne (Sr., 3); 27 Torrence Andrews (Fr., 0)  
**CB** 1 Buster Sampson (Jr., 1); 21 Adrian Owens (Fr., 0)  
**SS** 2 Donnavan Carter (Jr., 1); 4 Jon Pendergrass (Fr., 0)  
**FS** 43 Patrick Stephen (Sr., 3); 8 Bill Brune (So., 1)  
**P** 18 Kent Baker (Jr., 2); 17 Brian Clark (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach: Joe Novak**  
**Home Field: Huskie Stadium (31,000)**

**1997 Record (MAC): 0-11 (0-8)**  
**1998 Prediction: 4th MAC West**



**K**im Helton is not known for exaggeration. So when the Houston coach says he has an All-America-caliber player, one is likely to take note.

The player is junior tailback Ketric Sanford, one of the nation's best kick returners and, potentially at least, one of the best running backs.

"Ketric will be a first-round NFL draft

pick," Helton says. "When he's healthy, he's as good as any tailback in the country."



Courland Richards

## Ketric Sanford

Sanford is indicative of Houston's improved recruiting. And with the return to on-campus Robertson Stadium, which eventually will be expanded to 45,000 seats, Cougar followers are excited about Houston football.

Quarterback Jason McKinley was named Conference USA Freshman of the Year after throwing for 1,910 yards and nine touchdowns. He backed up Tyson Helton, the coach's son, for the first three games, then McKinley assumed the starter's role against Minnesota and "played about as well as he could have," according to the elder Helton.

And though Helton does not rule out the possibility of his son playing some significant minutes, he feels McKinley will be even better as a sophomore, now that he has experience in big games.

Now fully recovered from injury, Sanford is ready to introduce himself to the nation. Don't be fooled by his 1997 numbers — 636 net yards and an average per carry of 4.2 yards. He's frighteningly good.

Senior Vaughn Inniss is an excellent backup, good enough to average 51.8 yards per game in his role as a part-time starter last year.

Helton rarely uses senior fullback Jonathan Dennis for anything other than blocking. But Dennis, who also plays tight end, is adept at clearing holes and can catch. The Cougars' five-man receiving corps is impressive and will become outstanding if sophomore Orlando Iglesias emerges as expected. Iglesias hopes to notch 45 catches and 700-plus yards while upping his yards-per-catch average of 16.0. In addition, there are senior Jason deGroot and junior Halley Spencer, both talented and tested, and sophomore Kendall Williams, moved from cornerback.

At tight end, junior Scott Regimbald, a Canadian, is one of C-USA's three best at that position and one of McKinley's three favorite returning targets.

For Sanford to blossom and gain national attention, the Houston line needs some improvement. With All-America center Ben Fricke gone, that improvement won't come easily.

Junior Jeff Medford will replace Fricke, with the guards expected to be returning starter Wilbert Brown, a senior, and junior Gregory Brown. Sophomore Josh Lovelady on the left and junior Justin Stille on the right return as starters at tackle.

Houston's linemen are relatively short, somewhat heavy and slightly slow. Look for first-year line coach George Yarno, a former NFL assistant, to make an impact.

Helton knows the the defensive line

losses were substantial, too. "We won't be as good on the front," he says bluntly.

Junior Adriano Belli and senior Patterson Owens are at end, with junior Mike DeRouselle in the middle. The trio combined for a modest 66 tackles last fall. If DeRouselle doesn't develop quickly, it could be a long year for the Cougar defense.

Junior Micah Malone returns at one outside linebacker spot, with junior Ahmad Charles the likely starter at the other.

**30,757/  
19,678**

The approximate University of Houston enrollment and 1997 per-game Cougar home attendance.

Inside, sophomores Sam Hairston (strong side) and Wayne Rogers (weak side) need time to develop. There are some weaknesses at linebacker that foes will exploit.

Two starters return to what was a mediocre secondary (only five interceptions by DBs). The leader of the group is senior strong safety Stedmon Forman. He is Houston's best blitzing back, but his lack of height hurts him on pass defense.

At left corner, junior William Fields had a disappointing season that ended with injury. The right cornerback and free safety slots are open. Sophomore Emile White is the only other player with any experience.

One of the main problems with the Houston secondary is a lack of height, with no starter taller than 5-10.

Sanford averaged 27.9 yards per kickoff return, which ranked seventh nationally. He looks to crack the 30-yard mark this fall.

Houston has no experience returning at either kicking position. Stocky sophomore Ivan Luna will be the new punter. The kicker will be senior Mike Waddell.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

WR	39 Halley Spencer (Jr., 1); 85 Richard Edwards (Sr., 2)
LT	71 Josh Lovelady (So., 1); 79 Jabari Beauford (Fr., 0)
LG	68 Gregory Brown (Jr., 2); 62 Ryan Hendrickson (So., 1)
C	64 Jeff Medford (Jr., 2); 54 Truett Novosad (Jr., 2)
RG	74 Wilbert Brown (Sr., 3); 65 Nathan Woody (So., 1)
RT	78 Justin Stille (Jr., 2); 69 Charles Johnson (Sr., 2)
TE	21 Scott Regimbald (Jr., 2); 84 Jonathan Dennis (Sr., 3)
FL	18 Orlando Iglesias (So., 1); 5 Jason deGroot (Sr., 3)
QB	16 Jason McKinley (So., 1); 15 Tyson Helton (Jr., 2)
WR	14 Damien Montgomery (So., 0); 23 Kendall Williams (So., 1)
RB	7 Ketric Sanford (Jr., 2); 6 Vaughn Inniss (Sr., 1)
K	93 Mike Waddell (Sr., 0); 91 Joey Saavedra (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (3)

RE	76 Patterson Owens (Sr., 1); 92 Mike Knepper (Jr., 2)
NT	80 Mike DeRouselle (Jr., 2); 51 Patrick James (Jr., 0)
LE	90 Adriano Belli (Jr., 2); 72 Jeremy Griffith (Fr., 0)
OLB	19 Micah Malone (Jr., 2); 43 Waymon Ervin (Fr., 0)
WLB	10 Wayne Rogers (So., 1); 1 Theoran Walker (Sr., 1)
SLB	34 Sam Hairston (So., 1); 52 Brant Stogner (Fr., 0)
OLB	50 Ahmad Charles (Jr., 2); 47 Louis Hampton (Sr., 1)
CB	40 Derrick Boxill (Sr., 0); 26 Stephen Scott (So., 0)
CB	35 William Fields (Jr., 2); 27 Frederick Conley (So., 0)
SS	24 Stedmon Forman (Sr., 3); 36 Eric Wilson (So., 0)
FS	22 Emile White (So., 1); 6 David Williams (So., 0)
P	86 Ivan Luna (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Kim Helton  
Home Field: Robertson Stadium (22,000)

1997 Record (C-USA): 3-8 (2-4)  
1998 Prediction: 7th Conference USA



**F**or all the firepower Central Michigan has generated on offense the last two seasons, a dreadful defense has dragged it into the lower echelon of the Mid-American Conference. The Chippewas have made changes on the defensive side of the ball this season to try to reverse their free-fall.

Jim Schulte, a 23-year veteran assistant

ranked 12th in the MAC in that department, allowing a conference-worst 290 yards a game through the air.

The Chippewas gave up an average of 476 total yards a game and opponents scored an average of 43.6 points, embarrassing numbers.

Senior Shawn Williams will enter his fourth season as a starter in the secondary. He was third on the team in tackles last season with 60. Williams will move to strong safety to replace Herman Smith. Smith started last year but has been slow to recover from a knee injury. Sophomore Brian Leigeb at free safety was the Chippewas' top tackler with 93 stops.

If there is a strength to the Chippewas' defense it is in the line with nose guards C.J. Remmo and Calvin Massenberg. Massenberg had 11 tackles for losses and Remmo added nine.

Senior twins Jason and Jeremy Gold will man the inside linebacker positions. Jason made 92 tackles last year and Jeremy had just 17 in an injury-marred season.

The Chippewas have had one of the MAC's top offenses the last two seasons, but they must replace the trigger man in the attack. Tim Crowley, who passed for an average of 220 yards a game last season, completed his eligibility.

Sophomore Pete Shepherd has some playing experience, filling in when Crowley was banged up last year. Shepherd completed 50-of-93 passes for 548 yards and three touchdowns in '97.

Shepherd has the edge in experience over

the other candidates for the starting quarterback job, but sophomore Matt Loughhead and junior Jeff Davis will push to become the starter.

The Chippewas will gladly try to make room in a solid backfield for the return of senior tailback Silas Massey. The MAC rushing champion with 1,544 yards as a sophomore in 1996, Massey suffered a season-ending knee injury last year in a pre-season practice.

In Massey's absence, Eric Flowers stepped in and gained 909 yards and Dan Myrick added 292 yards on just 66 carries. Jason Meyer and Joe Fuller are experienced blockers at fullback.

**2-1** CMU football is into its second century. The 1897 team went 2-1 in the school's second year of football.

Whoever becomes the starting quarterback will have a talented receiving corps to connect with. The top two pass-catchers in 1997 are back. Bryan Schorman led the way last season with 56 receptions for 871 yards and Reggie Allen caught 50 passes for 877 yards. Tight end Adam Simonson, a 1996 first-team All-MAC selection, was third on the team in receiving with 31 catches and four touchdowns. But Simonson was diagnosed with leukemia in January, and his availability this fall is in question. Doug Bontekoe at tackle and Mike Cipa at center return as starters on the offensive line.

CMU lost both kickers from last year. Jake Kemp, whose brother, Alex, is a former Chippewa punter, is the top candidate at that position. Walk-ons Marc Cooper and Bernie Rosendahl will battle with Paul Savich for the placekicking duties.



Robert Barclay

## Silas Massey

coach in the Central Michigan program, was relieved of his job as defensive coordinator after four seasons and reassigned to the defensive line. Brian Van Gorder was brought in to head up the Chippewas' defense, which floundered badly the last two years. Also, Willie Martinez was named the secondary coach, a position that has come under fire because of the large chunks of passing yards CMU allowed.

Martinez was defensive coordinator at Central Florida in 1995 and '96. He joined the Eastern Michigan staff as the defensive backs coach in 1997 and filled in as interim defensive coordinator after Sam Gruneisen resigned midway through last year.

"Defense will be an obvious area of concentration for us," fifth-year Central Michigan coach Dick Flynn says. "We return a lot of starters who gained valuable experience last season. Now they've got to get better, and we'll look to make some position changes."

The greatest area of concern for Flynn is with the pass defense. Central Michigan

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

SE 86 Bryan Schorman (Sr., 3); 15 Damon Pitt (Jr., 2)  
LT 73 Doug Bontekoe (Sr., 2); 79 Matt Brayton (So., 0)  
LG 68 Nick Ferguson (Fr., 0); 61 John Herrold (So., 1)  
C 52 Mike Cipa (Sr., 2); 51 Kevin Barry (So., 1)  
RG 57 Jason Wennerstrom (Jr., 0); 61 John Herrold (So., 1)  
RT 71 Eric Page (Jr., 0); 78 Eric Dumont (Fr., 0)  
TE 88 Mark Swetz (Jr., 2); 90 George Ghattas (Sr., 3)  
QB 14 Pete Shepherd (So., 1); 11 Matt Loughhead (So., 0)  
FB 27 Jason Meyer (Jr., 2); 39 Joe Fuller (So., 1)  
TB 3 Silas Massey (Sr., 2); 30 Eric Flowers (Jr., 2)  
FL 28 Reggie Allen (Sr., 3); 5 Rory Nevins (Jr., 2)  
K 42 Marc Cooper (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (8)

DE 49 Walter Jenkins (Jr., 1); 56 Gabe McMasters (Jr., 2)  
NG 74 C.J. Remmo (Sr., 3); 33 Calvin Massenberg (Sr., 3)  
DT 69 Joe Adam (Jr., 2); 72 James Alexander (So., 1)  
DE 55 Darnell Wilson (Jr., 2); 91 Jerry Zaremba (Jr., 2)  
LB 18 Jerome Winston (Jr., 2); 26 Ralph Sewell (So., 1)  
LB 44 Jeremy Gold (Sr., 3); 38 Casey Laughlin (So., 1)  
LB 41 Jason Gold (Sr., 3); 9 Abdullah Muhammad (Fr., 0)  
CB 1 Tedaro France (Fr., 0); 43 Byron Phillips (Sr., 3)  
CB 4 Wayne Dudley (Fr., 0); 23 Scott Naz (So., 0)  
SS 12 Shawn Williams (Sr., 3); 46 Donovan Russian (Jr., 0)  
FS 29 Brian Leigeb (So., 1); 8 Anthony Jones (So., 1)  
P 17 Jake Kemp (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dick Flynn  
Home Field: Kelly/Shorts Stadium (20,086)

1997 Record (MAC): 2-9 (1-7)  
1998 Prediction: 5th MAC West



**D**uring the spring of 1996, a writer who had closely followed the formation of Conference USA made some calls to athletic directors of schools being mentioned in possible connection with the then-rookie league.

One such call was placed to Al Vanderbush, the AD at the United States Military Academy. Straightforwardly yet pleasantly,



**Johnny Goff**

Vanderbush responded to the questions as expected, stressing that Army football had its great tradition, various practical matters, its fans, the Navy rivalry, etc., to consider. Still, speculation was just beginning.

Roughly 11 months later, on March 10, 1997, Army announced it would begin C-USA play for the 1998 season. Thus, one of America's most tradition-steeped college football programs would end 107 years of independent status and join a league with no tradition.

Prior to joining C-USA, Academy officials polled alumni throughout the nation, and the response was overwhelming.

Now, Army can play for both the Commander in Chief Trophy and the C-USA championship.

Senior quarterback Johnny Goff is well-suited to spearhead Army's quest for both. A fine scrambler, Goff led the Cadets in rushing attempts (173), net yardage (698) and average yards per game (63.5). Goff's throwing accuracy (31.4 percent) and passing efficiency rating (61.1) were atrocious.

Army returns nine players who totaled 15 or more rushing attempts, a stat that, were it kept, would likely rank the Cadets first nationally. This group will try to help Army crack the 300-yards-per-game average that it surprisingly failed to reach (295.2 ypg) last fall. Senior fullbacks Joe Hewitt and Ty Amey combined to average 117 yards and may be the nation's top duo at the position.

However, Hewitt has experienced problems with blurred vision and Amey has had injuries. Their questionable medical status has cleared the way for senior Craig Stucker. Also back are three halfbacks: seniors Rob Lalumondier and Bobby Williams, and junior Reno Ferri.

Senior Rod Richardson, who averaged an impressive 21.5 yards on six catches, is a quality receiver. Grady Jett, a junior, is the backup. Junior Shaun Castillo or senior Joe Benson will be tight end. Either will be lucky to get his hands on the ball.

Gone are four starters on the offensive line, but senior left tackle Neil Ravitz is back. The guards will be senior Nate Allard on the left side and fellow senior George McIngvale on the right. At the other tackle spot, look for seniors Rashidi Hodari and Brian Connolly to emerge. Senior Michael Guzman projects to be the center.

Junior end David Hageman is the lone returning starter on the Cadet defensive line. Sophomore Ron Sporer emerged during the last half of the season and should be the other end.

Senior Joe Stanyer mans the tackle spot, with junior Scott Kozak expected to be a quality nose guard.

The knight position, which combines end and linebacker responsibilities, could be shared by senior Chad Suitoanu, back from an injury, and juniors Tom Goettke and Marcus Jackson.

With the loss of Joe Sachitano and Scott Sprawls, the top two Cadet tacklers (186 combined) last fall, Army will be hurting at the linebacker position. The top two inside linebackers are expected to be juniors Adisa King and Brandon Kelley, who combined to record a measly 29 stops in 1997. The King-Kelley duo will have to more than triple that number just to equal half what Sachitano-Sprawls tallied. Their backups are junior Nate Hunterton and sophomore Lyle Weaver.

**611** Army's all-time victory total, a figure that ranks the Cadets in the Top 15 of the nation's Division I-A programs.

The secondary is the strength of the Army defense. Four seasoned and solid players return, led by senior free safety Kenny Dale Rowland, an aggressive player. He is joined by fellow senior Jamar Mullen, who moved from free safety to cornerback.

Joining the duo will be senior strong safety Tim Gatlin, a quality blitz man, and junior cornerback Tony Coaxum.

Junior Scott Williams will be an excellent utility man.

Senior kicker Eric Olsen doesn't have great range, but from inside the 40 he is deadly (11-of-12 last season). Graham White, a junior, will take over punting duties.

Richardson, who averaged 25.2 yards per kickoff return, raised some eyebrows. He's fast and elusive. Hunter Hill, a junior, will return punts.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

**WR** 1 Rod Richardson (Sr., 2); 96 Grady Jett (Jr., 1)  
**LT** 71 Neil Ravitz (Sr., 2); 63 Jason Posey (Sr., 1)  
**LG** 78 Nate Allard (Sr., 1); 65 Mark Prehar (Jr., 1)  
**C** 52 Michael Guzman (Sr., 1); 65 Mark Prehar (Jr., 1)  
**RG** 54 George McIngvale (Sr., 1); 65 Mark Prehar (Jr., 1)  
**RT** 75 Brian Connolly (Sr., 1); 74 Rashidi Hodari (Sr., 1)  
**TE** 84 Shaun Castillo (So., 1); 83 Joe Benson (Sr., 1)  
**QB** 9 Johnny Goff (Sr., 1); 10 Colin Cunningham (Sr., 0)  
**FB** 33 Joe Hewitt (Sr., 2); 45 Ty Amey (Sr., 1)  
**RB** 40 Rob Lalumondier (Sr., 1); 44 Reno Ferri (Jr., 1)  
**RB** 49 Bobby Williams (Sr., 3); 30 Jimmy O'Boyle (Sr., 1)  
**K** 14 Eric Olsen (Sr., 2)

### DEFENSE (5)

**DE** 81 David Hageman (Jr., 1); 79 Clint Holmes (Jr., 0)  
**DT** 99 Joe Stanyer (Sr., 1); 92 Brian Kavanagh (Jr., 1)  
**NG** 70 Scott Kozak (Jr., 1); 77 Jermaine Bullock (So., 0)  
**DE** 90 Ron Sporer (So., 1); 58 Brian King (Sr., 2)  
**LB** 89 Chad Suitoanu (Sr., 2); 93 Tom Goettke (Jr., 1)  
**LB** 48 Adisa King (Jr., 1); 55 Nate Hunterton (Jr., 1)  
**LB** 53 Brandon Kelley (Jr., 0); 46 Lyle Weaver (So., 1)  
**CB** 17 Tony Coaxum (Jr., 1); 10 James Dupree (So., 1)  
**CB** 28 Jamar Mullen (Sr., 2); 47 Scott Williams (Jr., 1)  
**SS** 25 Tim Gatlin (Sr., 1); 34 Clay Daniels (Jr., 1)  
**FS** 39 Kenny Dale Rowland (Sr., 1); 4 Derick McNally (So., 1)  
**P** 13 Graham White (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach: Bob Sutton**  
**Home Field: Michie Stadium (39,929)**

**1997 Record: 4-7 (Independent)**  
**1998 Prediction: 8th C-USA**



**A**s a stockbroker might say, it's time to diversify. If Navy coach Charlie Weatherbie had been playing the stock market the past four years, that's the advice he would have received. He didn't do it then, but now, he has no choice.

Weatherbie put all of his money on quarterback Chris McCoy. That was good enough to give Navy its greatest success in

key receivers and all four have good hands.

Irv Dingle and Matt Harden were the backup fullbacks last year, but both got plenty of game action. Dingle is more explosive and should be the main man on the quick option hitters.

Unless the Midshipmen tune up the passing game, the wideouts could gather dust. Mark Mill, who had nine catches for 87 yards last season, is the top returnee. Travis Williams and Matt O'Donnell are young and talented and could be gamebreakers if given a chance.

With the skill positions depleted, the offensive line could be a saving grace, although the dismissal of left tackle Mike Wahle may change that assessment. J.D. Gaaney returns to left guard and Blaine Kindler will play again at right tackle. The line played a major role in Navy's running game, the third most productive in the nation last year, but adding younger players like Brian Brown at guard and Kostas Hatzidakis at center will make the line a question mark this year.

On the defensive line, Jason Snider is back after getting All-East mention at tackle last season, but he is the only returning starter. Sophomore Brad Wimmisatt had some outstanding moments and should step in to man one of the end spots. Jason McCray will be at the other end because of his speed and his potential. McCray played in all 11 games last season and made 17 tackles, while Wimmisatt saw action in eight games. The other starting tackle slot will be manned by the inexperienced Ivan Garvin.

If there is one glaring weakness on the

Navy team, it is the dearth of linebackers. The top five from last year are gone.

Senior Keith Mier played in six games last year, but not in crunch time. Four others will be in the running, including sophomores Daryl Hill and Justin Hess, junior Matt Daigneault and senior Ross Drenning.

In the secondary, there are some players with ability. Gary Lane, Enrico Hunter and Desmond Morgan all got to play at cornerback, but they weren't on the field enough to show what they could do. Hunter and Morgan are fast enough to cover well and Hunter saw action in eight games at the position.

Adam Crecion will be the anchor of the secondary at the free safety spot, while John Chavous and Chris Oliver will start at the other safety positions. Only Crecion has any experience.

**7** That's the number of games the Midshipmen know they must win to get a bowl bid; it's the number of wins they had last year and want to surpass.

Placekicking is solid with Tom Vanderhorst, who nailed 14-of-16 field goals inside 40 yards last season. More of the same will be expected of him this season.

The punting picture is not nearly as crowded; in fact, it's downright empty. That could be a problem. Junior Tray Calish and sophomores Brian Williams and Evan Papadakis will vie for the punting position.

The return game may not be as problematic with Ryan Read, Mill, Hunter, Vereen and Nelson all hoping to get their chances to bring back enemy kicks.



John Betancourt

## Enrico Hunter

more than a decade. But McCoy, who led the Midshipmen in rushing and passing both of the past two seasons, is gone, and Navy will have to come up with other players to achieve a third straight winning season, which Navy hasn't done in 16 years.

Three or four prospects are in the running for director of the spread offense. None has been in a game for more than a few minutes, but junior Steve Holley, who played in six games and rushed for 55 yards on 21 carries in '97, and senior Jon Lambert come closest to McCoy's multi-skilled ability. Holley runs the option game with more consistency, but neither of the frontrunners has had the chance to show his arm.

Weatherbie considers this year's backs as his most experienced and versatile, with several good, hard runners with varying styles returning from last season. Manny Metcalf, Jason Wolf, John Vereen and Matt Nelson all carried the ball last season from the slotback position and are likely to carry the ball more often with McCoy out of the picture. In this offense the slotbacks are also

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

WR	Mark Mill (Sr., 2); Matt O'Donnell (Jr., 0)
LT	Patrick Singleton (Jr., 0); Philip Yeh (So., 0)
LG	J.D. Gaaney (Sr., 3); Derek Peterson (Sr., 1)
C	Kostas Hatzidakis (Jr., 1); Terrence Anderson (Jr., 0)
RG	Brian Brown (Jr., 1); Ed Hinman (Sr., 0)
RT	Blaine Kindler (Sr., 1); Hoot Stahl (So., 0)
QB	Steve Holley (Jr., 0); Jon Lambert (Sr., 1)
FB	Irv Dingle (Sr., 2); Matt Harden (Sr., 1)
SB	Manny Metcalf (Sr., 1); Matt Nelson (Jr., 1)
SB	Jason Wolf (Sr., 1); John Vereen (Jr., 1)
WR	Travis Williams (Jr., 1); Ronel Reyes (Sr., 0)
K	Tom Vanderhorst (Sr., 2); Tim Shubzda (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (1)

DE	Brad Wimmisatt (So., 0); Roger Grant (Jr., 1)
DT	Ivan Garvin (Jr., 0); Greg Adams (Sr., 0)
DT	Jason Snider (Sr., 2); David Ryno (Jr., 1)
DE	Jason McCray (So., 0); David Rautenbach (Jr., 0)
LB	Keith Mier (Sr., 1); Matt Daigneault (Jr., 0)
LB	Brad Chatlos (Sr., 1); Jamison McIlvain (Jr., 0)
CB	Gary Lane (Jr., 1); Desmond Morgan (Sr., 1)
CB	Enrico Hunter (Sr., 2); Jason Grant (So., 0)
SS	Chris Oliver (Jr., 1); Rashad Jones (So., 0)
FS	Adam Crecion (Sr., 3); Jamie Doffermire (Jr., 1)
WS	John Chavous (Jr., 1); Rashad Jones (So., 0)
P	Tray Calish (Jr., 0); Brian Williams (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Charlie Weatherbie

1997 Record (Independent): 7-4

Home Field: Navy-Marine Corps Memorial (30,000)



**R**utgers fans can be assured of one thing this season: It can't possibly be worse than last season. After going 0-11 and allowing more points and yards than any team in school history, Rutgers should show improvement this year.

With a 2-20 record through two years, coach Terry Shea finds himself with an uncertain future and a new athletic director;

Wide receiver is the one area where the Knights have depth and talent. Senior Andy Holland is a solid possession receiver, junior Walter King has a knack for big plays (24.7-yard average), Bill Powell led the team in total receiving yards and sophomore Delrico Fletcher saw considerable time as a freshman. Seniors Chris Hutton and Billy Woodard will share the tight end spot again.

Four of the five interior line starters are back, but is that a good thing for the Big East's worst offense? Senior guard Pete Donnelly, senior tackle Ryan Comeau and junior guard Ben French started all 11 games. Senior offensive tackle Shaun O'Hara, who could move to center, may be the best of the lot.

Help is expected from newcomer Josefa Piauili, a junior college player by way of Hawaii, and sophomore Rich Mazza. McMahon was sacked 22 times last year, far too many for a player with his elusiveness.

The defensive line was easily the weakest area on the team. Junior end Wayne Hampton showed dramatic improvement and was the only real force on the line. End Ansel George-Shields and tackle Mike Belh are seniors with lots of experience. Junior college transfer Karl Mayall, a rugby player in his native New Zealand, brings a physical presence to the tackle position.

Rutgers will look to sophomores for depth. Ends Joe Cirone and Raishard Crawford both lettered as freshmen. Marcus Perry, Julian Ross and Frank Rompalo are all in line for tackle duty.

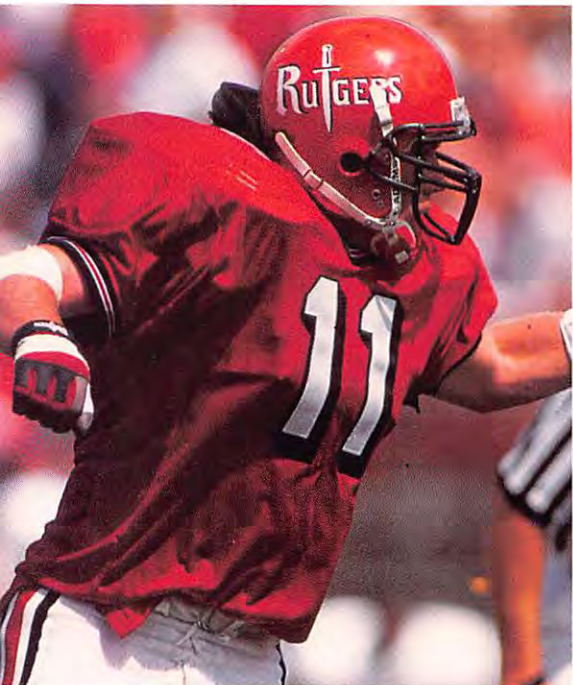
Senior inside linebacker Aaron Brady is undersized at 5-11, 220, but he is a relent-

less tackler and the emotional leader. At the other inside spot, junior college transfer Jabari Moore is a tough, physical player who is being counted on for immediate help.

The top two players at each outside linebacker position return. Sophomore Tarrell Freeney started six games as a true freshman and had the only defensive touchdown all year. Senior Roger Wingate missed the spring because of a severe knee injury and his status is uncertain, but senior Dax Strohmeier has started in the past.

**496, 5272**

Rutgers allowed 496 points and 5,272 yards last season. Both are school records.



**Aaron Brady**

Bob Mulcahy may not be too patient. But a softened schedule should help. So should the return of 64 letter winners, 10 of whom played as true freshmen last fall. One was quarterback Mike McMahon, a dynamic player and a talent Shea can build around.

In starting the final five games last year, McMahon posted the most productive season by a freshman QB in school history. "Getting to see college defenses and having a chance to read them was the biggest thing I took out of last season," says McMahon.

In the backfield, junior tailback Jacki Crooks and senior fullback Gary Fauntleroy return with playing experience. Crooks, a tough runner, doesn't have major college speed. Fauntleroy, slowed by injuries and weight problems, has been a bust since his ballyhooed arrival four years ago.

One potential answer to the lack of speed is elusive sophomore tailback Kevin Sinclair, who sat out last year due to academics. Incoming freshmen Tosh Riddick and Darian Barnes could be the backfield of the not-too-distant future.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

WR 81 Andy Holland (Sr., 2); 86 Walter King (Jr., 2)  
LT Josefa Piauili (Jr., 0); 55 Rich Mazza (So., 0)  
LG 74 Ben French (Jr., 2); 68 Clint Hunt (So., 0)  
C 66 Shaun O'Hara (Sr., 1); 63 Mike DeLucia (Jr., 2)  
RG 76 Pete Donnelly (Sr., 3); 60 Antonio Horn (Sr., 0)  
RT 53 Ryan Comeau (Sr., 1); 71 Randy Smith (Jr., 0)  
TE 83 Chris Hutton (Sr., 3); 88 Billy Woodard (Sr., 0)  
QB 17 Mike McMahon (So., 1); 16 Brendan Edmonds (Sr., 1)  
FB 5 Gary Fauntleroy (Sr., 2); 36 Chris Washington (Sr., 1)  
RB 7 Jacki Crooks (Jr., 2); 32 Kevin Sinclair (So., 0)  
WR 80 Bill Powell (Sr., 3); 20 Delrico Fletcher (So., 1)  
K 25 Lee McDonald (Sr., 2); Steve Barone (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (4)

LE 96 Ansel George-Shields (Sr., 2); 67 Joe Cirone (So., 1)  
LT 90 Karl Mayall (Jr., 0); 59 Marcus Perry (So., 0)  
RT 94 Mike Belh (Sr., 2); 97 Julian Ross (So., 0)  
RE 56 Wayne Hampton (Jr., 1); 52 Raishard Crawford (So., 1)  
OLB 44 Roger Wingate (Sr., 2); 49 Dax Strohmeier (Sr., 2)  
ILB Jabari Moore (Jr., 0); 38 Tyrone Pitts (Sr., 1)  
ILB 11 Aaron Brady (Sr., 3); 48 Mike Pridgeon (Jr., 2)  
OLB 46 Tarrell Freeney (So., 1); 52 Gil Ross (Sr., 3)  
CB 22 Riley Jefferson (So., 1); 23 David Griffin (Sr., 1)  
CB 21 Peter Clarke (Jr., 0); 8 Garrett Shea (So., 0)  
FS 4 Dante Siciliano (So., 1); 25 Nate Bush (So., 0)  
P 13 Michael Barr (Fr., 0); 37 Charlie Titus (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Terry Shea

Home Field: Rutgers Stadium (41,500)

1997 Record (Big East): 0-11 (0-7)

1998 Prediction: 8th Big East



Coming close to beating Notre Dame was not good enough for Fred vonAppen. Following the one-point loss to the Fighting Irish last November, a game Hawaii should have won, the third-year head coach promised changes.

When the Rainbows took the field for spring drills in April, a major change was evident. After decades as a successful defensive

on 42 carries. Anthony Diieso, a former pro baseball player, and Jade Charles are the backups. Avion Weaver, Hawaii's fastest back, will also challenge for playing time.

Starter Wesley Morris averaged 20.6 yards on 17 receptions, and Eleu Kane, with 20 grabs, is the top returning receiver other than Tharp. John Kirby and Robert Kemfort will try to work themselves into a scheme that features mostly short passing plays.

Change in the Rainbows' offensive philosophy alters the West Coast look to more of a running emphasis. That means the tight end will do more blocking. Adrian Klemm should make his 6-4, 282-pound converted-tackle presence felt.

Tackle Kaulana Noa is the only returning starter on a line that helped Hawaii rank last in WAC rushing with 90 yards a game. The Rainbow staff recruited junior college linemen Douglas Gosling and Dustin Owen, but their effectiveness won't be known until fall. Center Keith Tomomitsu, guards Gary Krug and Andy Phillips and tackle Vincent Street, along with Noa and backup tackle Manly Kanoa, will have to improve their games to hold their positions.

With Don Lindsay switched to offense, vonAppen transferred 28-year-old Tom Williams from linebacker coach to defensive coordinator. Williams will oversee a defense that was solid against the run and the pass, but somehow still allowed 25 points a game. The fact that the offense worked hard on running the ball in the spring helped toughen the defensive line.

End Ben Bright and tackle Olen Rosehill will join nose guards Tony Tuioti and Miles Garner and end Matt Elam up front. Hawaii has no shortage of linebackers. Kamuela Cobb-Adams recorded six sacks and forced two fumbles. He and Rinda Brooks are well suited to the outside positions, backed by rangy Mark Mollner.

Inside, Matt Paul has proved effective against both the pass and the run. Stephen Gonzales returns after injuries sidelined him two games into last season. Jeff Ulbrich, from San Jose State via junior college, will make an impact as a 254-pounder with great speed.

2.4

Don Lindsay's new job is to improve an offense that averaged only 2.4 yards per rush last season, ranking the Rainbows 105th in the nation in rushing yards per game.

Hawaii held opponents below a 50 percent completion rate last season but intercepted just 10 passes. Daniel Ho-Ching will try to replace free safety Eddie Klaneski, the team's most productive player for the last two seasons. Ron Wood will have the first shot at rover, and junior college transfer Jajuan Huddleston could challenge a starter at either safety position.

Donnell Williams, the only returning starter in the secondary, is experienced at cornerback, with senior Bernard Santamaria taking over full-time in the other corner.

Punter Chad Shrout has a strong leg, as evidenced by his 46.1-yard average. Eric Hannum was a dependable kicker, making 12-of-15 field-goal attempts from inside 40 yards. Klaneski's punt return prowess will be missed, but Kane and Kemfort were effective on kickoff returns.



Peter Brouillet

## Charles Tharp

coordinator at various schools including USC, Don Lindsey is running an offense.

"I believe he can get our offense going in the right direction," vonAppen says.

This is a critical year in vonAppen's program. Lindsey must improve an offense that ranked next to last in the WAC, or the Rainbow Warriors can hope only for another two or three victories.

Josh Skinner was hot and cold as a sophomore, completing 109-of-195 passes for 1,416 yards and three touchdowns, but he threw 13 interceptions. He's being challenged by Dan Robinson and junior college transfers Tomas Racijs and Fred Salanoa. Hawaii may use more than one quarterback on a regular basis.

Tailback Charles Tharp, Hawaii's only real weapon last season, rushed for 796 yards and seven touchdowns as a freshman. He's an effective receiver out of the backfield, too, and led the team in receiving and all-purpose yards as well as rushing.

Calvin Mims returns at fullback after finishing second to Tharp with 209 yards

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

WR 28 Eleu Kane (Jr., 2); 26 Robert Kemfort (So., 1)  
LT 71 Kaulana Noa (Jr., 2); 76 Manly Kanoa (Jr., 0)  
LG 68 Andy Phillips (Jr., 2); 72 Akoni Sandoval (So., 0)  
C 58 Keith Tomomitsu (Sr., 1); 61 Chris Smith (Fr., 0)  
RG 75 Gary Krug (Sr., 1); 70 Jose Martinez (Jr., 0)  
RT 59 Vincent Street (Sr., 1); 76 Manly Kanoa (Jr., 0)  
TE 63 Adrian Klemm (Jr., 2); 89 Jimmy McClain (Sr., 0)  
QB 16 Josh Skinner (Jr., 1); 9 Dan Robinson (Jr., 0)  
FB 24 Calvin Mims (Sr., 1); 31 Anthony Diieso (Sr., 1)  
RB 25 Charles Tharp (So., 1); 30 Jade Charles (Jr., 1)  
WR 12 Wesley Morris (Sr., 1); 87 John Kirby (Sr., 1)  
K 15 Eric Hannum (Jr., 2); 99 Chad Shrout (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (4)

DE 79 Ben Bright (Sr., 3); 56 Matt Elam (Sr., 1)  
NG 92 Tony Tuioti (Jr., 2); 77 Miles Garner (So., 1)  
RT 96 Olen Rosehill (So., 1); 95 Soon Tog'ola (Jr., 0)  
OLB 8 Rinda Brooks (Sr., 1); 69 Mark Mollner (Sr., 1)  
ILB 47 Matt Paul (Jr., 2); 50 Joaquin Avila (So., 1)  
ILB 52 Stephen Gonzales (Sr., 2); 44 Jeff Ulbrich (Jr., 0)  
OLB 51 Kamuela Cobb-Adams (Sr., 3); 57 Eddie Robles (Sr., 0)  
CB 42 Bernard Santamaria (Sr., 1); 36 Celnell Bobbitt (Sr., 0)  
CB 23 Donnell Williams (Sr., 1); 43 Damien Arafiles (Sr., 0)  
SS 10 Ron Wood (Sr., 1); 5 Jason Vaughn (Jr., 0)  
FS 6 Daniel Ho-Ching (Jr., 2); 11 Anthony Smith (So., 0)  
P 99 Chad Shrout (Jr., 2); 15 Eric Hannum (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Fred vonAppen  
Home Field: Aloha Stadium (50,000)

1997 Record (WAC): 3-9 (1-7)  
1998 Prediction: 8th WAC Pacific



The decade of the 1990s has been one of continuous goal-setting for North Texas. They started the decade playing I-AA competition and aspiring to be a division I-A program. In 1994 they captured the Southland Conference championship and also set a single-season attendance record. Both accomplishments helped to launch them to the next level.



Hut Allred

In 1996 the Mean Green joined the I-AA Big West Conference and last year posted a modest 2-3 in conference play with a 4-7 overall record. Time for the next step: winning the Big West and being invited to a bowl game.

First year head coach Darrell Dickey has the task of leading this quest. And he inherits a team that is nicely unpredictable. Picked to finish last in the conference its first season, UNT finished third; in 1997 it tied for third again.

The Mean Green will be put to the test early in '98 with a tough non-conference schedule that features tradition-strong Oklahoma, Texas Tech, Arizona State and Texas A&M.

"It's a challenge," says Dickey, who has been the offensive coordinator at SMU, UTEP and the University of Memphis. "[But] UNT is not the only place in the country that plays this kind of schedule."

But for UNT to reach their next plateau will take a lot of hard work.

LaDarrin McLane will likely be the

opening-day quarterback, but a pectoral injury to his throwing shoulder severely limited his passing ability in the spring. Backup Chase Corley, a junior who has not taken a snap since his senior year in high school, and third-stringer Jason Attaway, whose only action has come on special teams, have taken the majority of the snaps in this year's scrimmages.

Although sophomore McLane is unproven, four starters return on the offensive line, led by two-time All-Big West center Phillip Armour and a slew of 300-pounders, including Vince Patterson, Brad Winn and Laymonde Lee. It is by far North Texas' largest and most experienced front line with three seniors and two juniors.

There is finally some depth in the Eagle backfield. Senior Hut Allred will be pushed hard by two youngsters. Ja'Quay Wilburn overtook Allred for the team rushing lead late last season (a freshman school-record 594 yards, including 223 against New Mexico State). Michael Hickmon, a 1997 recruit who was ineligible last year, adds a spark.

Wide receiver is also in good hands with returnees Broderick McGrew and Jay Young. McGrew (6-3, 205) is a deep threat. He only caught 10 passes last season but scored five touchdowns and averaged 28.7 yards per reception. He should play a much bigger role in Dickey's attack.

Young finished as the team's top receiver with 36 catches for 552 yards. Tight end Brian Waters (27 receptions) also returns but saw action at defensive end during spring drills and may move to the defensive

side of the ball. If so, junior college transfer Brian Futrell would settle in at tight end.

The defensive unit again looks strong, and the standouts come from the line. End Scott Blank, the conference sack leader (13), returns opposite Corbin Montgomery (formerly Corbin Epps), an intense player who registered eight sacks and 10 tackles for loss. Colorado transfer Zeb Cornist competes with Darrell Williams for the tackle slot with Andre Phillips starting at nose tackle.

15

Since its inception in 1913, UNT has had 15 coaches. That averages to 5.6 years per coach. With how the Mean Green has moved this decade, that might be time enough for Dickey to get the Mean Green to top of the Big West.

At linebacker, the Eagles will have to replace their top two tacklers. A heavy burden will be placed on brothers Fred and Corry Pertile. The two last year combined for 43 tackles, not even half the total of departed linebackers Ron Boston (111) and Benny Cherry (107). Jeff Harris and Jeff Rodgers will battle for the third linebacker spot to round out what looks to be an all-sophomore starting unit.

Free safety Phillip Littlejohn, a converted cornerback, heads a somewhat young, eager secondary. Detrion Woodson starts at cornerback, teaming with Brian Wilturner. Lee Malone, a backup last year, will likely start at strong safety. Heath Moody showed positive signs a year ago.

John Baker, a third-team All-America punter who averaged 47.2 yards per kick, returns; so does placekicker Garrett Courtney, who did not miss from inside 40 yards.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

WR 6 Jay Young (Sr., 1); 87 Kendrick Hollie (Sr., 2)  
LT 62 David Morgan (Jr., 1); 78 Shane York (Sr., 1)  
LG 66 Laymonde Lee (Sr., 3); 59 Mike Coon (Fr., 0)  
C 67 Phillip Armour (Sr., 3); 64 Andrew Lott (So., 0)  
RG 77 Brad Winn (Sr., 1); 70 Kyle McComb (Jr., 0)  
RT 57 Vince Patterson (Jr., 2); 72 Brad Woosley (Fr., 0)  
TE 40 Brian Waters (Sr., 3); 89 Morgan Cramer (Fr., 0)  
QB 12 LaDarrin McLane (So., 1); 11 Chase Corley (Jr., 0)  
FB 35 Starsky Banks (Jr., 2); 88 Brian Futrell (Jr., 0)  
RB 38 Hut Allred (Sr., 3); 34 Ja'Quay Wilburn (So., 1)  
WR 85 Broderick McGrew (Jr., 2); 83 Will Chinn (So., 1)  
K 17 Garrett Courtney (Sr., 1)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 48 Corbin Montgomery (Sr., 1); 91 Chance Adair (Jr., 2)  
DT 99 Darrell Williams (Jr., 2); 79 Zeb Cornist (So., 0)  
NT 61 Andre Phillips (Jr., 2); 59 Matt Coon (Fr., 0)  
DE 95 Scott Blank (Sr., 1); 96 Joe Johnson (Jr., 2)  
LB 49 Jeff Harris (So., 1); 52 Jeff Rodgers (So., 1)  
LB 44 Corry Pertile (So., 1); 36 Robert Whitehead (Fr., 0)  
LB 43 Fred Pertile (So., 1); 51 Justin Warren (Fr., 0)  
CB 1 Brian Wilturner (So., 1); Lawrence Ellis (So., 1)  
CB 23 Detrion Woodson (Jr., 2); 39 Kendrick Sapp (Jr., 2)  
SS 33 Lee Malone (Jr., 2); 5 Heath Moody (So., 1)  
FS 22 Phillip Littlejohn (Sr., 3); 13 Chris Coit (Jr., 0)  
P 24 John Barker (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters BOLD indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Darrell Dickey  
Home Field: Fouts Field (30,500)

1997 Record (Big West): 4-7 (2-3)  
1998 Prediction: 5th Big West



In 1989, UAB started a club football team.

In 1998, the Blazers travel to East Carolina, Nebraska and Tennessee, and host Kansas and Virginia Tech.

"Our program has become competitive at a very early stage of development," Blazer coach Watson Brown understates. "We have made as much progress in two years of Divi-

game," Brown says. "We will continue to try to be 50 percent run and 50 percent pass but we will lean more toward the pass this year."

Quarterback Lee Jolly has a bright future. With fine throwing accuracy and a refusal to force passes, Jolly will keep interceptions to a minimum. In addition, he has above-average quickness. If UAB can find a replacement for departed receiver Kevin Drake, Jolly should pass for more than 1,800 yards.

Do-everything junior tailback Lucious Foster is an invaluable member of the Blazer team. A potential 1,000-yard rusher, Foster will lead what should be a solid running game. Perhaps sophomore Percy Coleman will continue the improvement he showed toward the end of last season. Bart Battles and Benji Morrow are a competent full-back duo.

Drake will be missed but numerous returnees should give Jolly some options at wide receiver. Darrius Malone, a junior split end, heads the group, which also features sophomore Travis Johnson and juniors Quentin Troupe and Daryl Johnson. The tight end is sophomore Brett Richards.

Senior left guard Brian Creel, senior right tackle Melvin Sydney and sophomore right guard Tim Medders will anchor the UAB front wall. Junior center Brandon Herring, sophomore left tackle Matt Bowden and sophomore left guard Calvin Mitchell will all play.

"Our linemen are going to have to help this team," Brown says.

On the defensive line, seniors Curtis Jeter

and Pernell Davis, both excellent at penetrating enemy lines, will battle for nose guard, while senior end James Lewis is a handful. The other end spot is wide open, with Sterrick Morgan and Wallace Rutledge vying. Statistically, Morgan has the edge.

UAB has one of the biggest quartet of linebackers (averaging 6-3, 248) in the country.

Junior Brian Smith led the team with 114 stops and will play in the NFL one day. Inside backers Shannon Monroe, a senior, and junior Clint Jones are steady. On the outside, senior Ryan Lundy is solid with the blitz, with Tony Eason as backup.

**147** UAB scored 147 total points in its five wins, but managed nearly half that with just 75 points in six losses. The Blazers were scoreless against Kansas and Virginia Tech.



## Pernell Davis

sion I-A competition as any program could be expected to make."

Entering its third and final year as an independent, UAB is poised to become a legitimate member of America's big-time college football fraternity.

"Gaining admission to Conference USA (announced in November of 1996) was critical in this whole thing," says an excited Brown, who adds that 83,000-seat Legion Field and C-USA status allowed UAB to entice Kansas and Virginia Tech to visit Birmingham.

Three Division I-AA teams will help soften the schedule. "We can't play the Nebraskas 11 times, but our program does have to keep stepping up image-wise," Brown says.

The new passing attack that UAB is about to employ may add a visually-friendly element to the football field.

Brown says that there is little doubt that a wide-open, pass-oriented attack would be employed in '98.

"We have to keep improving our passing

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

WR **2** Darrius Malone (Jr., 2); 11 Quentin Troupe (Jr., 1)  
 LT 83 Joel Cain (Jr., 0); 57 Matt Bowden (So., 1)  
 LG 56 Brian Creel (Sr., 3); 73 Calvin Mitchell (So., 1)  
 C 55 Brandon Herring (Jr., 2); 86 Josh Powers (Jr., 2)  
 RG **71** Tim Medders (So., 1); 61 Benjie Hines (Jr., 0)  
 RT 66 Melvin Sidney (Sr., 2); 76 Josh Case (Fr., 0)  
 TE **81** Brett Richards (So., 1); 87 Undrae Crosby (So., 1)  
 QB **12** Lee Jolly (So., 1); 16 Daniel Dixon (So., 1)  
 FB **36** Bart Battles (So., 1); 28 Benji Morrow (Sr., 1)  
 RB 5 Lucious Foster (Jr., 2); 25 Percy Coleman (So., 1)  
 WR 19 Travis Johnson (So., 1); 82 Daryl Johnson (Jr., 2)  
 K **27** Jake Ariens (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE **98** James Lewis (Sr., 1); 95 Wallace Rutledge (Sr., 2)  
 NG **99** Pernell Davis (Sr., 2); 69 Curtis Jeter (Sr., 3)  
 DE 88 Sterrick Morgan (Sr., 3); 91 Terrance Winborn (Jr., 2)  
 LB 8 Derrick Cloud (So., 1); 49 Eric Lampley (So., 0)  
 LB **47** Brian Smith (Jr., 2); 41 Tyrone Griffin (So., 1)  
 LB **52** Shannon Monroe (Sr., 1); 97 Clint Jones (Jr., 2)  
 LB **50** Ryan Lundy (Sr., 3); 4 Tyson Eason (So., 1)  
 CB 9 Omar Parker (Sr., 3); 33 Anthony Blevins (Sr., 0)  
 CB **21** Rodregis Brooks (Jr., 2); 1 Cedric Thatch (Jr., 1)  
 SS 30 Michael Ketchum (Fr., 0); 35 Adrian Singleton (Fr., 0)  
 FS 45 Scotty Hollins (Jr., 1); 7 Al Hurst (Jr., 2)  
 P **16** Daniel Dixon (So., 1); 92 Wade Waldrop (Sr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Watson Brown  
 Home Field: Legion Field (83,091)

1997 Record (Independent): 5-6



**M**onths later, defensive coordinator Pat Henderson can talk good-naturedly about having coached the next-to-worst total defense in Division I-A football in 1997.

"It's a virtual guarantee," says Henderson, "that we're going to be better."

How much the Golden Hurricane will improve coming off their 2-9 season is a

form that saw him lead the team in rushing in 1995 and 1996. Williams came out of spring as the No. 1 running back.

Kevin Isham, a powerful, straight-ahead runner, and John Mosley, a former tailback, will share the other backfield position.

The receiving corps will be led by Damon Savage, who topped the WAC with 66 catches in 11 games. Wes Caswell is coming back from his knee injury, and Jerrold Smith, Jeremiah Brister and Corey Brown will comprise a solid group of receivers.

Tight end is a strong position, with Tony Fisher and Drew McLaughlin allowing Felker to spread the ball around more.

With all the talent surrounding them, the offensive linemen will hold much of the responsibility for the offense's production. Jason Mills is dependable at strong tackle and Steve Schiller is improving after starting all year at center. Matt Bing, J.C. Kelley and Anthony Ratica will have chances to play at "quick" side guard, along with junior college transfer Don Douglas at tackle. Steve Wiedower has been moved from center to guard. Bobby Weeks started at guard last season and will see extensive duty as a backup.

The defensive line was less of a problem than the rest of the defense, even though Tulsa allowed 309.8 rushing yards a game. Ryan Farley and Tim Martin are adequate tackles, but must control blockers more effectively to clog running lanes. End Keith Carey will improve after playing as a true freshman. The other end could be Chris Odom or junior college transfer Andy Taylor, if he lands on the

defensive side of the ball after playing tight end last year.

Sophomores Phillip Abode and Ashon Farley became starters last season at line-backer and, predictably, "made their share of freshman mistakes," Henderson says.

They will play the outside positions, with Allen Blackmon moving to the middle.

Having already lost an outstanding cornerback to academic troubles, Tulsa was further hurt when Marshall Gordon was injured in a job-related accident that nearly severed his arm. Gordon has made a "phenomenal recovery," according to Henderson, and will join Sedrick Lusk and Todd Franz in the fight for the corner positions.

**-20** Tulsa's defense cannot take all the blame for a minus-20 turnover margin — or a 2-9 record. The Hurricane lost 33 turnovers. "That left a bad taste in our mouths," says offensive coordinator Rocky Felker.

The safety positions are more of a concern, and junior college transfers Gavin Engle and Chris Miller could play right away. Asher Ladner and converted running back Spencer Braggs stand in the newcomers' way. Engle entered school in time to participate in spring practice. Tulsa needs help after intercepting only five passes and allowing 19 aerial touchdowns last season.

Tulsa lost two important weapons on special teams, kicker James Anderson and kickoff returner Jason Jacoby, who had plenty of opportunities, thanks to opponents' 57 touchdowns. Junior Derek Nordstrom is the likely kicker and Fitzgerald can punt. The explosive Mosley and Braggs are among the punt and kick return candidates.



Randy Bell

## John Fitzgerald

question that nobody on coach Dave Rader's staff can answer just yet.

Tulsa turned to junior college players in recruiting, less an act of desperation than an attempt to bring out the best of the holdover players. Talent comes back in the form of 13 returning starters, seven on offense and six on defense.

At quarterback, John Fitzgerald played reasonably well last season. Unfortunately, the Hurricane's only victories came when Michael Wall started in place of an injured Fitzgerald. Fitzgerald should make progress this year. He completed 54 percent of his passes for 2,003 yards and nine touchdowns while ranking third in the WAC in total offense and fourth in passing efficiency.

Running back Charlie Higgins rushed for 1,043 yards and 11 touchdowns as a sophomore, even after carrying the ball only eight times in the first three games. Higgins moved from "W" back (fullback) to take the place of Reggie Williams, who was highly productive in his first two seasons. Coaches hope Williams can return to the

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

WR 11 Wes Caswell (Sr., 3); 7 Jerrold Smith (Jr., 1)  
 LT 63 Matt Bing (Sr., 2); 52 Don Douglas (Jr., 0)  
 LG 78 Anthony Ratica (Jr., 1); 70 J.C. Kelley (Fr., 0)  
 C 65 Steve Schiller (So., 1); 91 Jimmy Jett (Jr., 0)  
 RG 61 Steve Wiedower (So., 1); 71 Bobby Weeks (Jr., 1)  
 RT 68 Jason Mills (Sr., 3); 75 Jake Stoetznier (Fr., 0)  
 TE 95 Tony Fisher (Sr., 3); 84 Pete Muther (Jr., 1)  
 QB 16 John Fitzgerald (So., 3); 12 Michael Wall (So., 1)  
 FB 21 Kevin Isham (So., 1); 5 John Mosley (Jr., 2)  
 TB 23 Reggie Williams (Sr., 3); 26 Charlie Higgins (Jr., 2)  
 WR 86 Damon Savage (Jr., 2); 89 Corey Brown (So., 1)  
 K 35 Derek Nordstrom (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 47 Andy Taylor (Jr., 0); 92 Chris Odom (So., 1)  
 DT 93 Ryan Farley (Sr., 3); 90 Jake Lyon (So., 0)  
 DT 96 Tim Martin (Sr., 3); 49 Lee Vick (Fr., 0)  
 DE 58 Keith Carey (So., 1); 99 Neil Whitworth (Sr., 3)  
 LB 33 Phillip Abode (So., 1); 51 Ryan Cook (Fr., 0)  
 LB 48 Allen Blackmon (Sr., 2); 37 Jeremy McClure (Jr., 1)  
 LB 46 Ashon Farley (So., 1); 44 Leon Walker (So., 1)  
 CB 1 Sedrick Lusk (So., 1); 13 Marshall Gordon (Sr., 2)  
 CB 4 Todd Franz (Jr., 2); 2 Lyndon Nixon (Sr., 3)  
 SS 22 Spencer Braggs (Jr., 2); 6 Gavin Engle (Jr., 0)  
 FS 40 Asher Ladner (Sr., 3); 32 Chris Miller (So., 0)  
 P 16 John Fitzgerald (Sr., 3); 1 Casey Lipscomb (Fr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dave Rader  
 Home Field: Skelly Stadium (40,385)

1997 Record (WAC): 2-9 (2-6)  
 1998 Prediction: 8th WAC Mountain



**A**kron belied its lack of success in the won-lost column last season with a rushing game that ranked among the most productive in the country. The Zips struggled to a 2-9 record in 1997, including a 2-6 showing that dropped it into last place in the MAC East Division. They slumped to those depths despite ranking 11th in the nation in rushing offense,

offensive football team, and maybe the strength of our team as a whole," Owens says. "This is a strong group for us, and it's not only the starters, it's a deep group. We're about three deep at each position."

That's good news for the running backs, especially returning starter Greg Lomax. The senior tailback led the Zips on the ground in 1997 with 835 yards and nine touchdowns. He averaged 6.6 yards per rushing attempt, the best figure among the top 10 rushers in the conference.

Junior quarterback Greg Gromek missed the last five games in 1997 after suffering a torn anterior cruciate ligament that required surgery. He completed 50-of-101 passes for 715 yards. James "Butchie" Washington filled in for Gromek and completed 49-of-108 attempts for 526 yards.

The two quarterbacks combined to throw 12 interceptions and only six touchdown passes, which is an area Owens thinks must be reversed this season for the team's record to improve.

"The biggest question mark on offense, which has been the biggest question mark since we've coached here, is quarterback," Owens says. "We desperately need to find continuity at the quarterback position. It's really the only thing that has kept us from being a complete, balanced offensive football team."

Junior Willie Spencer is the Zips' top receiver, catching 43 balls for 521 yards and two touchdowns last year. He was Akron's starting quarterback for the first three games of 1996 before switching to wide

receiver at midseason.

Senior Carl Whitt is better known as a good blocker at his receiver spot, but Owens thinks Whitt could emerge as a pass-catching threat this season.

On defense, Akron has seven starters returning, but the unit ranked last in the conference in total defense last year. It allowed 494.9 yards a game. The Zips had trouble in the secondary, allowing 26 touchdown passes and intercepting only seven balls. But the real problem was the Zips' defensive line, which was last in the conference in quarterback sacks with just seven total.

**195** The Zips allowed 195 points in the first four games against Nebraska, Miami (Ohio), Bowling Green and LSU. Akron lost all four games, but took revenge against CMU, winning 53-14.

Paul Ondrusek is moving from offensive line to defensive line, but will back up Ron Smith at tackle. Jamey Bennett returns at nose guard and will be joined by ends John Lurtz and Jeremy Maxa. George Cameron is the only returnee in a linebacker corps that will host a lot of new blood. Junior college linebackers James Cochran and Louis Mackey will contend for playing time.

The shell-shocked secondary returns all four starters. Safeties Andre McCray and George Germany and cornerback Jerome Cargile were among the top four tacklers on the team last season. Rich Reliford is also back at cornerback.

Senior Mike Hayes was the leading punter in the MAC last season with a 43.8-yard average. Four players will wage a battle for the open placekicking job.



**Greg Lomax**

averaging 221 yards per game.

"Offensively, our line blossomed as we expected it to, and we ran the ball pretty consistently," Akron coach Lee Owens says. "We also did a great job of protecting our quarterbacks, allowing just 10 sacks."

The Zips have strides to make, but with 10 starters returning on offense this year, including the entire offensive line, they hope to be able to show some improvement behind their running game. Four of the five starters on the line weigh 300 pounds or more.

Senior Kevin Kuntz at guard is the baby of the bunch at 275 pounds, but the one-time tight end is one of the best players on the line.

The other guard is junior Dan Wessman, who tips the scales at 305. Senior center Bill Hildebrand goes 320, junior tackle Steve Hale is 320 and junior tackle Rex Pyles weighs 315. For depth, sophomore backup tackle Joe Trudeau checks in at 6-8, 312 pounds.

"I think the line is the strength of your

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (10)

SE 6 Willie Spencer (Jr., 1); 8 Gregg Peugeot (Jr., 2)  
LT 64 Steve Hale (Jr., 2); 79 Joe Trudeau (So., 1)  
LG 78 Kevin Kuntz (Sr., 3); 62 Brock Knisely (Jr., 2)  
C 70 Bill Hildebrand (Sr., 3); 65 Scott Smith (Fr., 0)  
RG 60 Dan Wessman (Jr., 2); 65 George Harris (Fr., 0)  
RT 71 Rex Pyles (Jr., 2); 76 Thomas McBride (So., 1)  
TE 98 Chuck Webb (Sr., 3); 82 Tim Ritley (Fr., 0)  
QB 1 James Washington (So., 1); 12 Ryan Uhlenhake (Fr., 0)  
FB 26 Mike Lagasse (Jr., 2); 45 Arlune Culler (So., 0)  
RB 27 Greg Lomax (Sr., 3); 33 Bo Hunter (Jr., 1)  
FL 11 Carl Whitt (Sr., 3); 88 Lavel Bailey (So., 1)  
K 14 Zac Derr (Fr., 0); 19 Nick Jamison (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (7)

DE 54 John Lurtz (Fr., 0); 91 Jason Wiggins (So., 0)  
DT 95 Ron Smith (Jr., 2); 73 Paul Ondrusek (So., 1)  
NG 92 Jamey Bennett (Sr., 3); 63 Anthony Slimon (Jr., 2)  
DE 94 Jeremy Maxa (Sr., 3); 97 Jamie O'Neill (So., 1)  
LB 99 Aaron Brown (Fr., 0); 58 Ellery Bradford (Sr., 3)  
LB 7 George Cameron (Jr., 2); 53 Derek Wilborn (So., 1)  
LB 36 Ricky Jones (Jr., 1); 17 Kevin Vaughn (So., 1)  
CB 30 Rich Reliford (So., 1); 15 Dwight Smith (So., 1)  
CB 21 Jerome Cargile (Sr., 3); 40 Rickie Coble (Fr., 0)  
SS 31 Andre McCray (Sr., 3); 20 Mike Hughes (So., 1)  
FS 23 George Germany (Sr., 3); 29 Julius Lancaster (Jr., 2)  
P 37 Mike Hayes (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Lee Owens  
Home Field: Rubber Bowl (35,202)

1997 Record (MAC): 2-9 (2-6)  
1998 Prediction: 6th MAC East



**S**econd-year head coach Tony Samuel, an 11-year assistant at Nebraska, seems to have the Aggies finally headed in a positive direction. Other than Boise State, New Mexico State is the only Big West team to return its starting quarterback.

Seven other offensive starters return as well. The conference's best running back,

Duane Gregory, Houghtaling's favorite target and the Aggies' career leader with 181 receptions, is gone. Senior flanker David Patterson is the most experienced returning receiver and is not a bad target. He averaged 16.7 yards on 35 pass receptions in '97, and scored five times. Juniors Ryan Shaw and A.T. Holloway combined for 40 catches and two touchdowns and will share the split end assignment. And the Aggies have added a pair of speedburners from the juco ranks, Mike Wakefield and David Edwards, to the receiving corps.

Sophomore Marcellus McCray is scheduled to start at tight end, where 270-pound junior Chad Martin is available when Samuel feels the need to insert a third tackle in the lineup.

Aggie backs can count on the services of all five returning starters in the offensive line. The left side is held down by 300-pound tackle Jared Schmidt and 320-pound guard George Hudson, both juniors. Senior tackle Charlie Rotché and junior guard Jason Berger are posted on the right side, with sophomore Matt Hancock at center.

New Mexico State's hopes will hinge on its defense. The 1997 Aggies finished last in the conference in total defense (465.2 yards a game), passing defense, rushing defense and scoring defense, allowing an unsettling 36.2 points per game.

The top returnee is middle linebacker Waylon Waters, the team's top tackler a year ago with 86, including six for losses. Senior Jobe Lewis notched two pass breakups, a sack and four tackles for loss, and returns on the strong side. Sophomore Aaron Mills,

redshirt freshman D'Wyane Taylor and true freshman Mawuli Davis will compete with converted running back LaRon Lewis, a sophomore, on the weak side.

**3,223**

Aggie I-back Dennis Manns' three-year rushing total. In 1998, Manns has an opportunity to become only the third back in NCAA history to post four 1,000-yard rushing seasons.

A porous secondary is being reshuffled. Senior Mantel Thomas, junior Demetric Norwood and sophomore James Farley combined for 10 starts at cornerback last year.

Farley and Norwood will now split time in the right corner, with speedy sophomore Jascon Willis in the left corner.

Thomas has been moved to strong safety, where he will back up junior Marcus Woods. Senior Jeffery Thompson returns at free safety.

The Aggies are thin on the defensive line. Junior Tim Engelhardt is the leader and the only returning starter. Engelhardt posted a team-high 3½ sacks and four tackles for loss in '97 and has been repositioned from nose guard, where he started all 11 games last year, to tackle. Junior Tye Fraembs moves up at nose guard.

Sophomores Lyn Perryman and Rashaad Williams are battling it out at right end, with redshirt freshman Dru Grigson set to start on the left.

Nick Cecava returns to handle the kicking and punting duties. Cecava ranked fifth in the Big West in punting (40.4) and last in field goals (8-of-14). Tim Martin averaged a nice 21.9 yards on 14 kickoff returns last year.



New Mexico State University

## Dennis Manns

Dennis Manns, led New Mexico State to the nation's 21st most productive rushing attack.

The senior I-back has posted three straight 1,000-yard seasons, becoming the first Big West Conference athlete to do so. Last season he netted 1,017 yards and a 5.2-yard average, with five TD runs. For good measure, he completed a 50-yard pass in the New Mexico game.

Senior Joey Dozier gets the nod at full-back with sophomores Damon Willson and Mike Cunningham in reserve. Their job is to lead Manns and his backup at I-back, senior Timothy Nelson, through the line as lead blockers.

Ty Houghtaling started all 11 games at quarterback and finished the season as the team's second-leading rusher with 408 yards, while completing 152-of-301 passes for 1,985 yards and 10 touchdowns. His job status is not secure, however, after guiding the Aggies to a 2-9 record. Torre Williams came out of spring drills second on the depth chart.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

SE 12 Ryan Shaw (Jr., 2); 2 A.T. Holloway (Jr., 2)  
 LT 74 Jared Schmidt (Jr., 2); 64 Casey Gray (So., 1)  
 LG 52 George Hudson (Jr., 2); 53 Jason Baca (Sr., 1)  
 C 70 Matt Hancock (So., 1); 54 Ryan Herbon (So., 1)  
 RG 62 Jason Berger (Jr., 2); 61 Paul Ballenger (So., 0)  
 RT 72 Charlie Rotché (Sr., 3); 71 Travis Beckworth (So., 1)  
 TE 86 Marcellus McCray (So., 1); 75 Chad Martin (Jr., 2)  
 QB 3 Ty Houghtaling (Jr., 2); 4 Torre Williams (So., 1)  
 FB 49 Joey Dozier (Sr., 1); 34 Damon Willson (So., 1)  
 IB 32 Dennis Manns (Sr., 3); 36 Timothy Nelson (Sr., 1)  
 FL 18 David Patterson (Sr., 3); Tony Lukins (Fr., 0)  
 K 90 Nick Cecava (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (4)

LE Dru Grigson (Fr., 0); Jerome Simpkins (Jr., 0)  
 T 94 Tim Engelhardt (Jr., 2); 95 Jacob Caldwell (So., 1)  
 NG 96 Tye Fraembs (Jr., 2); 78 Oliver Soukup (So., 1)  
 RE 42 Lyn Perryman (So., 1); 93 Rashaad Williams (So., 1)  
 WLB 38 LaRon Lewis (So., 1); 47 Aaron Mills (So., 0)  
 MLB 45 Waylon Waters (Jr., 1); Mike Cunningham (Jr., 1)  
 SLB 28 Jobe Lewis (Sr., 3); Brian Benefield (Jr., 0)  
 CB 31 Jascon Willis (So., 1); 5 Haran Jackson (Sr., 3)  
 CB 30 James Farley (So., 1); 15 Demetric Norwood (Jr., 2)  
 SS 25 Marcus Woods (Jr., 0); 1 Mantel Thomas (Sr., 2)  
 FS 26 Jeffery Thompson (Sr., 3); 16 Daniel Garbarino (So., 1)  
 P 90 Nick Cecava (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Tony Samuel  
 Home Field: Aggie Memorial Stadium (30,343)

1997 Record (Big West): 2-9 (0-5)  
 1998 Prediction: 6th Big West



**W**hen quarterback Charlie Batch suffered a knee injury early in the 1996 season that ultimately knocked him out of action for the year, true freshman Walt Church stepped in behind the controls of the Eagles' offense. Secure in the knowledge that he was just a fill-in until Batch returned in 1997, Church put together a good season, throwing for 2,151

yards and 11 touchdowns in 10 games. He earned the MAC co-Freshman of the Year award. Batch has completed his eligibility with the Eagles, and now Church has a chance to gain the starting job after redshirting last season. In his one season as Eastern's starting quarterback, Church broke two school records by throwing for 450 yards and attempting 62 passes against Central Michigan.

Although Church was impressive in his only season at Eastern, he will have to fend off two other candidates for the quarterback job. Adrian Barbera, a sophomore, was Batch's backup last season. Barbera saw limited action in 1997, completing three of four passes. The other candidate for the position is Matt Kelly, a 6-4 sophomore who transferred from Nebraska-Omaha.

The quarterback will probably have a lot of weight on his shoulders because the running backs will be among the most inexperienced players on the team. Senior Ben Washington and sophomore Idris Wells are

the candidates for the tailback position. Washington played in four games last year and carried only seven times while Wells has never carried the ball for the Eagles. They'll be trying to make up for the strong 1-2 punch Savon Edwards and Mike Scott provided the last couple of seasons.

Last year, Edwards and Scott combined to rush for 1,396 yards and catch 86 passes for 808 yards. In 1996, they rushed for 1,426 yards. Making things easier for the winner of the quarterback race will be a talented group of wide receivers who should give the passing game a boost.

Senior Ta-if Kumasi was the Eagles' top pass-catching wideout last season with 39 receptions for 710 yards and five touchdowns. Jermaine Sheffield added 25 receptions for 434 yards and six scores, and Brandon Campbell had 16 catches for 215 yards and three TDs. A wild card in the Eagles' attack is junior Keijuan Douglas. He had 15 pass catches for 145 yards and two touchdowns, and he is one of the most dangerous punt returners in the MAC. Douglas ranked 26th in the nation in punt returns last year with an average runback of 11.7 yards.

Of the four returning starters on offense, three are linemen. Senior L.J. Shelton, an All-MAC first-team selection last season, heads the offensive line at tackle. Other returning starters are center Tom Michel and right tackle Clay Mihaere. Guards Vance Danzy, a senior, and Craig Cipa, a sophomore, are experienced. This line should provide good protection for the quarterback and be able to give the backs

some running room.

The Eagles have serious questions on defense after going through two coordinators last season. Sam Gruneisen resigned in mid-campaign and interim defensive coordinator Willie Martinez left the program to join division rival Central Michigan. Tony Lombardi has arrived from Mankato State to become Eastern's defensive coordinator.

Only three starters are back from last year's defense: junior linebacker Clifton Robinson, senior end Troy Campbell and senior safety Phil Franklin. Robinson, with 44 tackles in 11 games, was the leading tackler among that trio. Joining Robinson at the linebacker position will be senior Matt Driscoll and redshirt freshman Tim Camarco.

**49** The total yards rushing returning from last season. Ben Washington (35), Ta-if Kumasi (10) and Adrian Barbera (4).

Senior Demetrius Johnson, junior James Willingham, junior David Taylor and senior Anthony Smith will vie for positions in the secondary.

The interior of the line, with Campbell and Jermaine Kyles, is expected to be one of the better areas of the defense. End Ashley Travis brings two years of experience and backup Jeremy Lingenfelter is capable.

The kicking game remains in excellent shape. Senior placekicker Justin Ventura has several school records within his reach this season. He needs 16 points to become the career scoring leader at Eastern Michigan. He also needs five field goals to become the all-time leader. Sophomore punter Nick Avondet's average of 40.3 yards last season was the third-best single-season average in school history.



**Justin Ventura**

Eastern Michigan

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

**WR** 80 **Ta-if Kumasi** (Sr., 3); 25 Brandon Campbell (Jr., 2)  
**LT** 70 **L.J. Shelton** (Sr., 3); 68 Chuck Butkowski (Fr., 0)  
**LG** 66 Vance Danzy (Sr., 3); 75 Matt Bolles (So., 1)  
**C** 67 **Tom Michel** (Jr., 2); 64 Rich Chorak (Fr., 0)  
**RG** 62 Craig Cipa (So., 1); 94 Roman Welter (So., 0)  
**RT** 72 **Clay Mihaere** (Sr., 1); 79 Jason Pierce (So., 0)  
**TE** 37 Willie Hawkins (Jr., 2); 33 Mike Luna (Jr., 0)  
**QB** 19 Walt Church (So., 1); 18 Adrian Barbera (So., 1)  
**TE** 31 Pete Nyikes (Jr., 2); 86 Josh Van Ausdale (Jr., 0)  
**RB** 3 Ben Washington (Sr., 1); 4 Idris Wells (So., 0)  
**WR** 84 Jermaine Sheffield (Jr., 1); 9 Keijuan Douglas (Jr., 2)  
**K** 17 **Justin Ventura** (Sr., 3)

### DEFENSE (3)

**DE** 93 **Troy Campbell** (Sr., 2); 49 Jeremy Lingenfelter (Jr., 2)  
**NG** 95 Jermaine Kyles (Jr., 1); 99 James Turner (So., 0)  
**DE** 52 Ashley Travis (Jr., 2); 96 Russ Hlavac (So., 1)  
**LB** 29 Derek Vitae (Sr., 1); 56 Kenny Philpot (Fr., 0)  
**LB** 35 **Clifton Robinson** (Jr., 2); 43 Clyde Jackson (Sr., 1)  
**LB** 45 Matt Driscoll (Sr., 1); 57 Andre Watkins (Jr., 0)  
**LB** 47 Tim Camarco (Fr., 0); 24 Randy Santa (Jr., 1)  
**CB** 12 Demetrius Johnson (Sr., 2); 34 Jelani Johnson (So., 0)  
**CB** 30 James Willingham (Jr., 1); 34 Jelani Johnson (So., 0)  
**SS** 14 David Taylor (Jr., 1); 15 Anthony Smith (Sr., 1)  
**FS** 1 **Phil Franklin** (Sr., 3); 15 Anthony Smith (Sr., 1)  
**P** 20 **Nick Avondet** (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters **NUMBER** after class indicates letters won

**Head Coach:** Rick Rasnick  
**Home Field:** Rynearson (30,200)

**1997 Record (MAC):** 4-7 (3-5)  
**1998 Prediction:** 6th MAC West



## 1998 college schedules

\* Home game

### ATLANTIC COAST

**CLEMSON**  
CLEMSON, S.C.  
(7-5)  
S. 5 FURMAN\*  
S. 12 VIRGINIA TECH\*  
S. 19 VIRGINIA  
S. 26 WAKE FOREST\*  
O. 3 NORTH CAROLINA  
MARYLAND\*  
O. 17 FLORIDA STATE  
O. 24 DUKE  
O. 31 N.C. STATE\*  
N. 12 GEORGIA TECH\*  
N. 21 SOUTH CAROLINA\*

**DUKE**  
DURHAM, N.C.  
(2-9)  
S. 5 WESTERN CAROLINA\*  
S. 12 NORTHWESTERN  
S. 19 FLORIDA STATE  
S. 26 VIRGINIA\*  
O. 3 GEORGIA TECH  
O. 10 WAKE FOREST  
O. 17 N.C. STATE  
O. 24 CLEMSON\*  
O. 31 VANDERBILT  
N. 14 MARYLAND\*  
N. 21 NORTH CAROLINA\*

**FLORIDA STATE**  
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.  
(11-1)  
A. 31 TEXAS A&M\*  
S. 12 N.C. STATE  
S. 19 DUKE\*  
S. 26 USC\*  
O. 3 MARYLAND  
O. 10 MIAMI/FLORIDA\*  
O. 17 CLEMSON\*  
O. 24 GEORGIA TECH  
O. 31 NORTH CAROLINA\*  
N. 7 VIRGINIA\*  
N. 14 WAKE FOREST  
N. 21 FLORIDA\*  
@EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.

**GEORGIA TECH**  
ATLANTA, GA.  
(7-5)  
S. 5 BOSTON COLLEGE\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO ST.\*  
S. 26 NORTH CAROLINA  
O. 3 DUKE\*  
O. 10 N.C. STATE  
O. 17 VIRGINIA\*  
O. 24 FLORIDA ST.\*  
O. 31 MARYLAND  
N. 12 CLEMSON  
N. 21 WAKE FOREST\*  
N. 28 GEORGIA

**MARYLAND**  
COLLEGE PARK, MD.  
(2-9)  
S. 5 JAMES MADISON\*  
S. 12 VIRGINIA  
S. 19 WEST VIRGINIA  
S. 26 TEMPLE\*  
O. 3 FLORIDA STATE\*  
O. 10 CLEMSON  
O. 17 WAKE FOREST\*  
O. 31 GEORGIA TECH\*  
N. 7 NORTH CAROLINA  
N. 14 DUKE  
N. 21 N.C. STATE\*

**NORTH CAROLINA**  
CHAPEL HILL, N.C.  
(11-1)  
S. 5 MIAMI(OHIO)\*  
S. 12 STANFORD  
S. 19 GEORGIA TECH\*  
O. 3 CLEMSON\*  
O. 10 PITTSBURGH\*  
O. 24 WAKE FOREST  
O. 31 FLORIDA STATE  
N. 7 MARYLAND\*  
N. 14 VIRGINIA  
N. 21 DUKE  
N. 28 N.C. STATE\*

**N.C. STATE**  
RALEIGH, N.C.  
(6-5)  
S. 3 OHIO\*  
S. 12 FLORIDA STATE\*  
S. 19 BAYLOR  
O. 1 SYRACUSE\*  
O. 10 GEORGIA TECH\*  
O. 17 DUKE\*  
O. 24 VIRGINIA  
O. 31 CLEMSON  
N. 7 WAKE FOREST\*  
N. 21 MARYLAND  
N. 28 NORTH CAROLINA

**VIRGINIA**  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.  
(7-4)  
S. 3 AUBURN  
S. 12 MARYLAND\*  
S. 19 CLEMSON\*  
S. 26 DUKE  
O. 3 SAN JOSE STATE\*  
O. 17 GEORGIA TECH  
O. 24 N.C. STATE\*  
O. 31 WAKE FOREST  
N. 7 FLORIDA STATE  
N. 14 NORTH CAROLINA\*  
N. 28 VIRGINIA TECH

**WAKE FOREST**  
WINSTON SALEM, N.C.  
(3-6)  
S. 5 AIR FORCE  
S. 10 NAVY\*  
S. 12 WESTERN CAROLINA\*  
S. 19 APPALACHIAN STATE\*  
O. 10 DUKE\*  
O. 17 MARYLAND  
O. 24 NORTH CAROLINA\*  
O. 31 VIRGINIA\*  
N. 7 N.C. STATE  
N. 14 FLORIDA STATE\*  
N. 21 GEORGIA TECH

**WEST VIRGINIA**  
MORGANTOWN, W.VA.  
(7-5)  
S. 5 OHIO STATE\*  
S. 19 MARYLAND\*  
S. 26 TULSA\*  
O. 3 NAVY  
O. 10 TEMPLE  
O. 24 MIAMI/FLORIDA\*  
O. 31 VIRGINIA TECH  
N. 7 SYRACUSE\*  
N. 14 NAVY\*  
N. 21 MIAMI/FLORIDA  
N. 7 NOTRE DAME\*  
N. 14 PITTSBURGH  
N. 21 WEST VIRGINIA

**MIAMI**  
CORAL GABLES, FLA.  
(5-6)  
S. 5 TENNESSEE ST.\*  
S. 12 CINCINNATI  
S. 19 VIRGINIA TECH\*  
S. 26 UCLA\*  
O. 3 RUTGERS  
O. 10 FLORIDA STATE\*  
O. 24 WEST VIRGINIA  
O. 31 BOSTON COLLEGE\*  
O. 14 TEMPLE  
N. 19 PITTSBURGH\*  
N. 28 SYRACUSE

**PITTSBURGH**  
PITTSBURGH, PA.  
(6-6)  
S. 5 VILLANOVA\*  
S. 19 PENN STATE\*  
S. 26 VIRGINIA TECH  
O. 3 AKRON\*  
O. 10 NORTH CAROLINA  
O. 17 RUTGERS\*  
O. 31 SYRACUSE  
N. 7 TEMPLE\*  
N. 14 BOSTON COLLEGE\*  
N. 19 MIAMI/FLORIDA  
N. 27 WEST VIRGINIA\*

**RUTGERS**  
NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J.  
(0-11)  
S. 5 RICHMOND\*  
S. 12 BOSTON COLLEGE  
S. 19 SYRACUSE  
S. 26 ARMY\*  
O. 3 MIAMI/FLORIDA\*  
O. 17 PITTSBURGH  
O. 24 TULANE\*  
O. 31 TEMPLE\*  
N. 7 NAVY  
N. 14 WEST VIRGINIA\*  
N. 21 VIRGINIA TECH

**SYRACUSE**  
SYRACUSE, N.Y.  
(9-4)  
S. 5 TENNESSEE\*  
S. 12 MICHIGAN  
S. 19 RUTGERS\*  
O. 10 CINCINNATI\*  
O. 17 BOSTON COLLEGE  
O. 31 PITTSBURGH\*  
N. 7 WEST VIRGINIA  
N. 14 VIRGINIA TECH\*  
N. 21 TEMPLE  
N. 28 MIAMI/FLORIDA\*

**TENNESSEE**  
KNOXVILLE, TENN.  
(4-7)  
S. 5 MISSISSIPPI  
S. 12 MISSISSIPPI STATE\*  
S. 19 MINNESOTA  
S. 26 TEXAS A&M  
O. 3 HOUSTON  
O. 10 ARKANSAS\*  
O. 17 CINCINNATI\*  
O. 24 LOUISVILLE  
O. 31 ARKANSAS STATE\*  
N. 7 TULANE\*  
N. 14 SOUTHERN MISS  
N. 21 EAST CAROLINA\*

**SOUTHERN MISS**  
HATTIESBURG, MISS.  
(9-3)  
S. 5 PENN STATE  
S. 12 NORTHWESTERN ST.\*  
S. 19 TEXAS A&M\*  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 EAST CAROLINA\*  
O. 31 ALABAMA  
N. 7 HOUSTON  
N. 14 MEMPHIS\*  
N. 21 NEVADA

**TULANE**  
NEW ORLEANS, LA.  
(7-4)  
S. 3 CINCINNATI  
S. 12 SMU  
S. 26 NAVY\*  
O. 3 SOUTHERN MISS\*  
O. 17 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 24 RUTGERS  
O. 10 HOUSTON  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
O. 17 SOUTHERN MISS\*  
O. 24 NOTRE DAME  
N. 7 AIR FORCE\*  
N. 14 TULANE\*  
N. 21 LOUISVILLE  
D. 5 NAVY\*  
@PHILADELPHIA, PA.

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
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S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
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O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
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S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
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O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
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S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
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S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
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O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
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O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
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S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
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O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
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S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
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O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**TEMPLE**  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
(3-8)  
S. 5 TOLEDO  
S. 12 AKRON\*  
S. 19 BOSTON COLLEGE  
S. 26 MARYLAND  
O. 3 WILLIAM & MARY\*  
O. 10 WEST VIRGINIA\*  
O. 17 VIRGINIA TECH  
O. 31 RUTGERS  
N. 7 PITTSBURGH  
N. 14 MIAMI/FLORIDA\*  
N. 21 SYRACUSE\*

**VIRGINIA TECH**  
BLACKSBURG, VA.  
(7-5)  
S. 5 EAST CAROLINA\*  
S. 12 CLEMSON  
S. 19 MIAMI/FLORIDA  
S. 26 PITTSBURGH\*  
O. 8 BOSTON COLLEGE  
O. 17 TEMPLE\*  
O. 24 UAB  
O. 31 WEST VIRGINIA\*  
N. 14 SYRACUSE  
N. 21 RUTGERS\*  
N. 28 VIRGINIA\*

**WEST VIRGINIA**  
MORGANTOWN, W.VA.  
(7-5)  
S. 5 OHIO STATE\*  
S. 19 MARYLAND\*  
S. 26 TULSA\*  
O. 3 NAVY  
O. 10 TEMPLE  
O. 24 MIAMI/FLORIDA\*  
O. 31 VIRGINIA TECH  
N. 7 SYRACUSE\*  
N. 14 NAVY\*  
N. 21 MIAMI/FLORIDA  
N. 7 NOTRE DAME\*  
N. 14 PITTSBURGH  
N. 21 WEST VIRGINIA

**MIAMI**  
CORAL GABLES, FLA.  
(5-6)  
S. 5 TENNESSEE ST.\*  
S. 12 CINCINNATI  
S. 19 VIRGINIA TECH\*  
S. 26 UCLA\*  
O. 3 RUTGERS  
O. 10 FLORIDA STATE\*  
O. 24 WEST VIRGINIA  
O. 31 BOSTON COLLEGE\*  
O. 14 TEMPLE  
N. 19 PITTSBURGH\*  
N. 28 SYRACUSE

**PITTSBURGH**  
PITTSBURGH, PA.  
(6-6)  
S. 5 VILLANOVA\*  
S. 19 PENN STATE\*  
S. 26 VIRGINIA TECH  
O. 3 AKRON\*  
O. 10 NORTH CAROLINA  
O. 17 RUTGERS\*  
O. 31 SYRACUSE  
N. 7 TEMPLE\*  
N. 14 BOSTON COLLEGE\*  
N. 19 MIAMI/FLORIDA  
N. 27 WEST VIRGINIA\*

**RUTGERS**  
NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J.  
(0-11)  
S. 5 RICHMOND\*  
S. 12 BOSTON COLLEGE  
S. 19 SYRACUSE  
S. 26 ARMY\*  
O. 3 MIAMI/FLORIDA\*  
O. 17 PITTSBURGH  
O. 24 TULANE\*  
O. 31 TEMPLE\*  
N. 7 NAVY  
N. 14 WEST VIRGINIA\*  
N. 21 VIRGINIA TECH

**SYRACUSE**  
SYRACUSE, N.Y.  
(9-4)  
S. 5 TENNESSEE\*  
S. 12 MICHIGAN  
S. 19 RUTGERS\*  
O. 10 CINCINNATI\*  
O. 17 BOSTON COLLEGE  
O. 31 PITTSBURGH\*  
N. 7 WEST VIRGINIA  
N. 14 VIRGINIA TECH\*  
N. 21 TEMPLE  
N. 28 MIAMI/FLORIDA\*

**TENNESSEE**  
KNOXVILLE, TENN.  
(4-7)  
S. 5 MISSISSIPPI  
S. 12 MISSISSIPPI STATE\*  
S. 19 MINNESOTA  
S. 26 TEXAS A&M  
O. 3 HOUSTON  
O. 10 ARKANSAS\*  
O. 17 CINCINNATI\*  
O. 24 LOUISVILLE  
O. 31 ARKANSAS STATE\*  
N. 7 TULANE\*  
N. 14 SOUTHERN MISS  
N. 21 EAST CAROLINA\*

**SOUTHERN MISS**  
HATTIESBURG, MISS.  
(9-3)  
S. 5 PENN STATE  
S. 12 NORTHWESTERN ST.\*  
S. 19 TEXAS A&M\*  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 EAST CAROLINA\*  
O. 31 ALABAMA  
N. 7 HOUSTON  
N. 14 MEMPHIS\*  
N. 21 NEVADA

**TULANE**  
NEW ORLEANS, LA.  
(7-4)  
S. 3 CINCINNATI  
S. 12 SMU  
S. 26 NAVY\*  
O. 3 SOUTHERN MISS\*  
O. 17 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 24 RUTGERS  
O. 10 HOUSTON  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
O. 17 SOUTHERN MISS\*  
O. 24 NOTRE DAME  
N. 7 AIR FORCE\*  
N. 14 TULANE\*  
N. 21 LOUISVILLE  
D. 5 NAVY\*  
@PHILADELPHIA, PA.

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**UTAH STATE**  
LOGAN, UTAH  
(6-6)  
S. 5 UTAH\*  
S. 12 NEW MEXICO  
S. 19 COLORADO  
S. 26 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O. 3 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 10 LOUISVILLE\*  
O. 17 ARMY  
O. 24 BOISE STATE  
O. 31 NEW MEXICO STATE  
N. 7 NEVADA\*  
N. 14 NORTH TEXAS\*

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
EAST LANSING, MICH.  
(7-5)  
S. 5 OREGON  
S. 12 NOTRE DAME\*  
S. 26 MICHIGAN  
O. 3 CENTRAL MICHIGAN\*  
O. 10 INDIANA\*  
O. 24 MINNESOTA  
O. 31 NORTHWESTERN\*  
N. 7 OHIO STATE  
N. 14 PURDUE\*  
N. 21 ILLINOIS\*  
N. 28 PENN STATE

**MINNESOTA**  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.  
(3-9)  
S. 5 ARKANSAS STATE\*  
S. 12 HOUSTON  
S. 19 MEMPHIS\*  
O. 3 PURDUE  
O. 10 PENN STATE\*  
O. 17 OHIO STATE  
O. 24 MICHIGAN STATE\*  
O. 31 MICHIGAN\*  
N. 7 WISCONSIN  
N. 14 INDIANA  
N. 21 IOWA\*

**NORTHWESTERN**  
EVANSTON, ILL.  
(5-7)  
S. 5 UNIV\*  
S. 12 DUKE\*  
S. 19 RICE  
S. 26 WISCONSIN  
O. 3 ILLINOIS\*  
O. 10 IOWA  
O. 17 MICHIGAN\*  
O. 24 OHIO STATE\*  
O. 31 MICHIGAN STATE  
N. 7 PURDUE\*  
N. 14 PENN STATE  
N. 21 HAWAII

**OHIO STATE**  
COLUMBUS, OHIO  
(10-3)  
S. 5 WEST VIRGINIA  
S. 12 TOLEDO\*  
S. 19 MISSOURI\*  
S. 26 IOWA\*  
O. 3 NORTHWESTERN  
O. 10 OHIO STATE\*  
O. 17 WISCONSIN\*  
O. 24 INDIANA  
O. 31 PENN STATE  
N. 7 MICHIGAN STATE\*  
N. 14 IOWA  
N. 21 MICHIGAN\*



**Totally  
Munchable!**



**NEW**

**Lighter & Crispier Crunch!**

**Munch  
ems**

**Baked  
Snacks**

**Mesquite  
BBQ**



**Try all 5  
irresistible flavors!**



# 1998 college schedules

## \* Home game

### BOWLING GREEN BOWLING GREEN, OHIO (3-8)

S. 5 MISSOURI  
S.12 PENN STATE  
S.26 CENTRAL FLORIDA\*  
O. 3 OHIO\*  
O.10 MIAMI(OHIO)  
O.17 TOLEDO  
O.24 KENT\*  
O.31 MARSHALL\*  
N. 7 AKRON\*  
N.14 WESTERN MICHIGAN  
N.21 NORTHERN ILLINOIS

### CENTRAL MICHIGAN MT. PLEASANT, MICH. (2-9)

S. 5 IOWA  
S.12 WESTERN ILLINOIS\*  
S.26 KENT\*  
O. 3 MICHIGAN STATE  
O.10 EASTERN MICHIGAN  
O.17 NORTHERN ILLINOIS  
O.24 WESTERN MICHIGAN\*  
O.31 AKRON\*  
N. 7 MARSHALL  
N.14 TOLEDO  
N.21 BALL STATE\*

### EASTERN MICHIGAN YPSILANTI, MICH. (4-7)

S. 3 NORTHERN IOWA\*  
S.12 BALL STATE  
S.19 MICHIGAN  
S.26 MARSHALL\*  
O. 3 KENT  
O.10 CENTRAL MICHIGAN\*  
O.17 WESTERN MICHIGAN  
O.24 NORTHERN ILLINOIS\*  
N. 7 OHIO  
N.14 AKRON  
N.21 TOLEDO\*

### KENT KENT, OHIO (3-8)

S. 5 GEORGIA  
S.12 YOUNGSTOWN STATE\*  
S.19 NAVY  
S.26 CENTRAL MICHIGAN  
O. 3 EASTERN MICHIGAN\*  
O.10 AKRON\*  
O.17 MARSHALL  
O.24 BOWLING GREEN  
O.31 WESTERN MICHIGAN\*  
N.14 MIAMI(OHIO)  
N.21 OHIO\*

### MARSHALL HUNTINGTON, W.VA. (10-3)

S. 5 AKRON  
S.12 TROY STATE\*  
S.19 SOUTH CAROLINA  
S.26 EASTERN MICHIGAN  
O. 3 MIAMI(OHIO)\*  
O.10 OHIO  
O.17 KENT\*  
O.24 BALL STATE\*  
O.31 BOWLING GREEN  
N. 7 CENTRAL MICHIGAN\*  
N.21 WOFFORD\*

### MIAMI OXFORD, OHIO (8-3)

S. 5 NORTH CAROLINA  
S.12 ARMY  
S.26 TOLEDO\*  
O. 3 MARSHALL  
O.10 BOWLING GREEN\*  
O.17 BALL STATE  
O.24 CINCINNATI  
O.31 OHIO\*  
N. 7 NORTHERN ILLINOIS  
N.14 KENT\*  
N.21 AKRON

### NORTHERN ILLINOIS DEKALB, ILL. (0-11)

S. 3 WESTERN MICHIGAN  
S.12 KANSAS STATE  
S.19 EASTERN ILLINOIS\*  
O. 3 BALL STATE  
O.10 CENTRAL FLORIDA  
O.17 CENTRAL MICHIGAN\*  
O.24 TOLEDO\*  
O.31 MIAMI(OHIO)\*  
N. 7 OHIO  
N.14 OHIO  
N.21 BOWLING GREEN\*

### OHIO ATHENS, OHIO (8-3)

S. 3 N.C. STATE  
S.12 WISCONSIN  
S.19 EAST CAROLINA\*  
S.26 WESTERN MICHIGAN  
O. 3 BOWLING GREEN  
O.10 MARSHALL\*  
O.17 AKRON\*  
O.31 MIAMI(OHIO)  
N. 7 EASTERN MICHIGAN\*  
N.14 NORTHERN ILLINOIS\*  
N.21 KENT

### TOLEDO TOLEDO, OHIO (9-3)

S. 5 TEMPLE\*  
S.12 OHIO STATE  
S.19 WESTERN MICHIGAN\*  
S.26 MIAMI(OHIO)  
O. 3 CENTRAL FLORIDA\*  
O.10 BALL STATE\*  
O.17 BOWLING GREEN\*  
O.24 AKRON  
O.31 NORTHERN ILLINOIS  
N.14 CENTRAL MICHIGAN\*  
N.21 EASTERN MICHIGAN

### WESTERN MICHIGAN KALAMAZOO, MICH. (8-3)

S. 3 NORTHERN ILLINOIS\*  
S.12 INDIANA  
S.19 TOLEDO  
S.26 OHIO\*  
O. 3 NE LOUISIANA\*  
O.10 VANDERBILT  
O.17 BOWLING GREEN\*  
O.24 EASTERN MICHIGAN\*  
O.31 CENTRAL MICHIGAN\*  
O.31 KENT  
N. 7 BALL STATE  
N.14 BOWLING GREEN\*

### PAC TEN

**ARIZONA**  
TUCSON, ARIZ.  
(7-5)  
S. 3 HAWAII  
S.12 STANFORD  
S.19 IOWA\*  
S.24 SAN DIEGO STATE  
O. 3 WASHINGTON  
O.10 UCLA\*  
O.17 OREGON STATE  
O.24 NE LOUISIANA\*  
O.31 OREGON\*  
N. 7 WASHINGTON STATE\*  
N.14 CALIFORNIA  
N.21 ARIZONA STATE\*

### ARIZONA STATE TEMPE, ARIZ. (9-3)

S. 5 WASHINGTON\*  
S.12 BRIGHAM YOUNG  
S.19 NORTH TEXAS\*  
S.26 OREGON STATE\*  
O. 3 USC  
O.10 NOTRE DAME\*  
O.17 STANFORD\*  
O.31 WASHINGTON STATE  
N. 7 CALIFORNIA\*  
N.14 OREGON  
N.27 ARIZONA

### CALIFORNIA BERKELEY, CALIF. (3-8)

S. 5 HOUSTON\*  
S.12 NEBRASKA  
S.19 OKLAHOMA  
S.26 WASHINGTON STATE\*  
O. 3 USC  
O.17 WASHINGTON  
O.24 UCLA\*  
O.31 OREGON STATE  
N. 7 ARIZONA STATE  
N.14 ARIZONA\*  
N.21 STANFORD\*

### OREGON EUGENE, ORE. (7-5)

S. 5 MICHIGAN STATE\*  
S.12 UTEP  
S.19 SAN JOSE STATE\*  
S.26 STANFORD\*  
O.10 WASHINGTON STATE  
O.17 UCLA  
O.24 USC\*  
O.31 ARIZONA  
N. 7 WASHINGTON\*  
N.14 ARIZONA STATE\*  
N.21 OREGON STATE

### OREGON STATE CORVALLIS, ORE. (3-8)

S. 5 NEVADA\*  
S.12 CALIFORNIA\*  
S.19 USC  
S.26 ARIZONA STATE  
O. 3 UTAH STATE  
O.10 STANFORD  
O.17 ARIZONA\*  
O.24 WASHINGTON  
O.31 CALIFORNIA\*  
N. 7 UCLA\*  
N.21 OREGON\*

### STANFORD STANFORD, CALIF. (5-6)

S. 5 SAN JOSE STATE\*  
S.12 ARIZONA\*  
S.19 NORTH CAROLINA\*  
S.26 OREGON  
O. 3 NOTRE DAME  
O.10 OREGON STATE\*  
O.17 ARIZONA STATE  
O.31 UCLA  
N. 7 USC\*  
N.14 WASHINGTON STATE\*  
N.21 CALIFORNIA

### UCLA LOS ANGELES, CALIF. (10-2)

S.12 TEXAS\*  
S.19 HOUSTON  
S.26 MIAMI  
O. 3 WASHINGTON STATE\*  
O.10 ARIZONA  
O.17 OREGON\*  
O.24 CALIFORNIA  
O.31 STANFORD\*  
N. 7 OREGON STATE  
N.14 WASHINGTON  
N.21 USC\*

### USC LOS ANGELES, CALIF. (6-5)

A.30 PURDUE\*  
S.12 SAN DIEGO STATE\*  
S.19 OREGON STATE\*  
S.26 FLORIDA STATE\*  
O. 3 ARIZONA STATE\*  
O.10 CALIFORNIA\*  
O.17 WASHINGTON STATE  
O.24 OREGON  
O.31 WASHINGTON\*  
N. 7 STANFORD  
N.21 UCLA  
N.28 NOTRE DAME\*

### WASHINGTON SEATTLE, WASH. (8-4)

S. 5 ARIZONA STATE  
S.19 BRIGHAM YOUNG\*  
S.26 NEBRASKA  
O. 3 ARIZONA\*  
O.10 UTAH STATE\*  
O.17 CALIFORNIA\*  
O.24 OREGON STATE\*  
O.31 USC  
N. 7 OREGON  
N.14 UCLA\*  
N.21 WASHINGTON STATE

### WASHINGTON STATE PULLMAN, WASH. (10-2)

S. 4 ILLINOIS\*  
S.12 BOISE STATE\*  
S.19 IDAHO\*  
S.26 CALIFORNIA  
O. 3 UCLA  
O.10 OREGON\*  
O.17 USC\*  
O.31 ARIZONA STATE\*  
N. 7 ARIZONA  
N.14 STANFORD  
N.21 WASHINGTON\*

### SOUTHEASTERN

### ALABAMA TUSCALOOSA, ALA. (4-7)

S. 5 BYU\*  
S.12 VANDERBILT\*  
S.26 ARKANSAS  
O. 3 FLORIDA\*  
O.10 MISSISSIPPI\*  
O.17 EAST CAROLINA\*  
O.24 TENNESSEE  
O.31 SOUTHERN MISS\*  
N. 7 LSU  
N.14 MISSISSIPPI STATE  
N.21 AUBURN\*  
@BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

### ARKANSAS FAYETTEVILLE, ARK. (4-7)

S. 5 SW LOUISIANA\*  
S.12 SMU\*  
S.26 ALABAMA\*  
O. 3 KENTUCKY\*  
O.10 MEMPHIS  
O.17 SOUTH CAROLINA  
O.31 AUBURN  
N. 7 MISSISSIPPI\*  
N.14 TENNESSEE  
N.21 MISSISSIPPI STATE  
N.27 LSU\*  
@LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

### AUBURN AUBURN, ALA. (10-3)

S. 3 VIRGINIA\*  
S.12 MISSISSIPPI  
S.19 MARSHALL\*  
S.26 MISSISSIPPI STATE\*  
O. 3 TENNESSEE\*  
O.10 MISSISSIPPI STATE  
O.17 FLORIDA  
O.24 LOUISIANA TECH\*  
O.31 ARKANSAS\*  
N. 7 CENTRAL FLORIDA\*  
N.14 GEORGIA\*  
N.21 ALABAMA\*  
@BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

### FLORIDA GAINESVILLE, FLA. (10-2)

S. 5 THE CITADEL\*  
S.12 NE LOUISIANA\*  
S.19 TENNESSEE  
S.26 KENTUCKY\*  
O. 3 ALABAMA  
O.10 LSU\*  
O.17 AUBURN\*  
O.31 GEORGIA\*  
N. 7 VANDERBILT  
N.14 SOUTH CAROLINA\*  
N.21 FLORIDA STATE  
@JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

### GEORGIA ATHENS, GA. (10-2)

S. 5 KENT\*  
S.12 SOUTH CAROLINA  
S.19 WYOMING\*  
O. 3 LSU  
O.10 TENNESSEE\*  
O.17 KENTUCKY\*  
O.24 KENTUCKY  
O.31 FLORIDA\*  
N.14 AUBURN  
N.21 MISSISSIPPI\*  
N.28 GEORGIA TECH\*  
@JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

### KENTUCKY LEXINGTON, KY. (9-6)

S. 5 LOUISVILLE  
S.12 EASTERN KENTUCKY\*  
S.19 INDIANA\*  
S.26 FLORIDA  
O. 3 ARKANSAS\*  
O.10 SOUTH CAROLINA\*  
O.17 LSU  
O.24 GEORGIA\*  
N. 7 MISSISSIPPI STATE\*  
N.14 VANDERBILT\*  
N.21 TENNESSEE  
@LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

### LSU BATON ROUGE, LA. (9-3)

S.12 ARKANSAS STATE\*  
S.19 AUBURN  
S.26 IDAHO\*  
O. 3 GEORGIA\*  
O.10 FLORIDA  
O.17 KENTUCKY\*  
O.24 MISSISSIPPI STATE\*  
O.31 ALABAMA\*  
N.21 NOTRE DAME  
N.28 ARKANSAS\*  
@LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

### MISSISSIPPI OXFORD, MISS. (8-4)

S. 5 MEMPHIS\*  
S.12 AUBURN\*  
S.19 VANDERBILT  
S.26 SMU  
O. 3 SOUTH CAROLINA\*  
O.10 ALABAMA  
O.24 ARKANSAS STATE\*  
O.31 ARKANSAS\*  
N. 7 GEORGIA  
N.21 MISSISSIPPI STATE\*

### MISSISSIPPI STATE STARKVILLE, MISS. (7-4)

S. 5 VANDERBILT\*  
S.12 MEMPHIS  
S.19 OKLAHOMA STATE  
S.26 SOUTH CAROLINA  
O.10 AUBURN\*  
O.17 TENNESSEE ST.\*  
O.24 LSU  
N. 7 KENTUCKY  
N.14 ALABAMA\*  
N.21 ARKANSAS\*  
N.26 MISSISSIPPI

### SOUTH CAROLINA COLUMBIA, S.C. (5-6)

S. 5 BALL STATE\*  
S.12 GEORGIA\*  
S.19 MARSHALL\*  
S.26 MISSISSIPPI STATE\*  
O. 3 SMU\*  
O.10 SAN DIEGO STATE  
O.17 BRIGHAM YOUNG\*  
O.24 ARKANSAS\*  
O.31 VANDERBILT  
O. 3 ARKANSAS  
N. 7 SAN JOSE STATE\*  
N.14 FRESNO STATE  
N.21 CLEMSON

### TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE, TENN. (11-2)

S. 5 SYRACUSE  
S.19 FLORIDA\*  
S.26 HOUSTON\*  
O. 3 AUBURN\*  
O.10 GEORGIA  
O.24 ALABAMA\*  
O.31 SOUTH CAROLINA  
N. 7 UAB\*  
N.14 ARKANSAS\*  
N.21 KENTUCKY\*  
N.28 VANDERBILT

### VANDERBILT NASHVILLE, TENN. (3-8)

S. 5 MISSISSIPPI STATE  
S.12 ALABAMA\*  
S.19 MISSISSIPPI\*  
O. 3 TCU  
O.10 WESTERN MICHIGAN\*  
O.17 GEORGIA  
O.24 SOUTH CAROLINA\*  
N. 3 DUKE\*  
N. 7 FLORIDA\*  
N.14 KENTUCKY  
N.28 TENNESSEE\*  
@BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

### WESTERN ATHLETIC

### AIR FORCE COLO. SPRINGS, COLO. (10-3)

S. 5 WAKE FOREST\*  
S.12 UNLV  
S.17 COLORADO STATE\*  
S.26 TCU  
O. 3 NEW MEXICO\*  
O.10 NAVY\*  
O.24 TULSA  
O.31 SMU\*  
N. 7 ARMY  
N.14 WYOMING  
N.21 RICE\*

### BRIGHAM YOUNG PROVO, UTAH (6-5)

S. 5 ALABAMA  
S.12 ARIZONA STATE\*  
S.19 WASHINGTON  
S.26 MURRAY STATE\*  
O. 3 FRESNO STATE\*  
O.10 UNLV\*  
O.17 HAWAII  
O.24 SAN JOSE STATE\*  
O.29 SAN DIEGO STATE\*  
N. 7 NEW MEXICO\*  
N.14 UTEP  
N.21 UTAH

### COLORADO STATE FORT COLLINS, COLO. (11-2)

S. 5 COLORADO\*  
S.12 NEVADA  
S.17 AIR FORCE  
S.26 UNLV\*  
O. 3 UTEP  
O.10 TULSA\*  
O.17 NEW MEXICO STATE  
O.24 RICE\*  
N. 7 WYOMING\*  
N.14 SMU  
N.21 NAVY  
@DENVER, COLO.

### FRESNO STATE FRESNO, CALIF. (6-6)

S.12 COLORADO  
S.19 TEXAS TECH  
S.26 NEVADA\*  
O. 3 BRIGHAM YOUNG\*  
O.10 TCU  
O.17 UTAH  
O.24 UTEP\*  
O.31 NEW MEXICO  
N. 7 SAN DIEGO STATE  
N.14 HAWAII\*  
N.21 SAN JOSE STATE\*

### HAWAII HONOLULU, HAWAII (3-9)

S. 3 ARIZONA\*  
S.19 UTAH  
S.26 ARKANSAS STATE\*  
O. 3 SMU\*  
O.10 SAN DIEGO STATE  
O.17 BRIGHAM YOUNG\*  
O.24 ARKANSAS\*  
O.31 UTEP  
N. 7 SAN JOSE STATE\*  
N.14 FRESNO STATE  
N.21 NORTHWESTERN\*  
N.28 MICHIGAN\*

### NEW MEXICO ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (9-4)

S. 5 IDAHO STATE\*  
S.12 UTAH STATE\*  
S.19 NEW MEXICO STATE  
S.26 SAN JOSE STATE  
O. 3 AIR FORCE  
O.10 UTEP\*  
O.17 SAN DIEGO STATE\*  
O.24 HAWAII  
O.31 FRESNO STATE\*  
N. 7 BRIGHAM YOUNG  
N.14 UTAH\*  
N.21 CENTRAL FLORIDA

### RICE HOUSTON, TEXAS (7-4)

S. 5 SMU\*  
S.12 PURDUE  
S.19 NORTHWESTERN\*  
S.26 TEXAS  
O.10 SAN JOSE STATE  
O.17 TULSA  
O.24 WYOMING  
O.31 COLORADO STATE\*  
N. 7 TCU  
N.14 UNLV\*  
N.21 AIR FORCE

### SAN DIEGO STATE SAN DIEGO, CALIF. (5-7)

S. 5 WISCONSIN\*  
S.12 USC  
S.24 ARIZONA\*  
O. 3 TULSA  
O.10 HAWAII\*  
O.17 NEW MEXICO  
O.24 UTAH\*  
O.29 BRIGHAM YOUNG  
N. 7 FRESNO STATE\*  
N.14 SAN JOSE STATE  
N.21 UTEP\*

### SAN JOSE STATE SAN JOSE, CALIF. (4-7)

S. 5 STANFORD  
S.12 IDAHO\*  
S.19 OREGON  
S.26 NEW MEXICO\*  
O. 3 VIRGINIA  
O.10 RICE\*  
O.17 UTEP  
O.24 BRIGHAM YOUNG  
O.31 UTAH\*  
N. 7 HAWAII  
N.14 SAN DIEGO STATE\*  
N.21 FRESNO STATE

### SMU DALLAS, TEXAS (6-5)

S. 5 RICE  
S.12 TULANE\*  
S.19 ARKANSAS\*  
S.26 MISSISSIPPI\*  
O. 3 HAWAII  
O.10 WYOMING  
O.17 TCU\*  
O.24 UNLV\*  
O.31 AIR FORCE  
N. 7 TULSA\*  
N.14 COLORADO STATE\*  
N.21 NAVY  
@LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

### TCU FORT WORTH, TEXAS (1-10)

S. 5 IOWA STATE  
S.12 OKLAHOMA\*  
S.26 AIR FORCE\*  
O. 3 BRIGHAM YOUNG\*  
O.10 FRESNO STATE\*  
O.17 SMU  
O.24 NORTHWESTERN STATE  
O.31 WYOMING\*  
N. 7 RICE\*  
N.14 TULSA  
N.21 UNLV

### TULSA TULSA, OKLA. (2-9)

S. 5 SW MISSOURI STATE\*  
S.12 OKLAHOMA STATE\*  
S.26 WEST VIRGINIA  
O. 3 SAN DIEGO STATE\*  
O.10 COLORADO STATE  
O.17 RICE  
O.24 AIR FORCE\*  
O.31 UNLV  
N. 7 SMU  
N.14 TCU\*  
N.21 WYOMING\*

### UNLV LAS VEGAS, NEV. (3-8)

S. 5 NORTHWESTERN  
S.12 AIR FORCE\*  
S.19 WISCONSIN  
S.26 COLORADO STATE  
O. 3 NEVADA\*  
O.10 BRIGHAM YOUNG  
O.17 WYOMING\*  
O.24 SMU  
O.31 TULSA\*  
N.14 RICE  
N.21 TCU\*

### UTAH SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH (6-5)

S. 5 UTAH STATE  
S.12 LOUISVILLE\*  
S.19 HAWAII\*  
S.26 BOISE STATE\*  
O. 3 WYOMING  
O.17 FRESNO STATE\*  
O.24 SAN DIEGO STATE  
O.31 SAN JOSE STATE  
N. 7 UTEP\*  
N.14 NEW MEXICO  
N.21 BRIGHAM YOUNG\*

### UTEP EL PASO, TEXAS (4-7)

S. 5 TEXAS TECH  
S.12 OREGON\*  
S.26 NEW MEXICO STATE  
O. 3 COLORADO STATE\*  
O.10 NEW MEXICO  
O.17 SAN JOSE STATE\*  
O.24 FRESNO STATE  
O.31 HAWAII\*  
N. 7 UTAH  
N.14 BRIGHAM YOUNG\*  
N.21 SAN DIEGO STATE

### WYOMING LARAMIE, WYO. (7-6)

S.12 MONTANA STATE\*  
S.19 GEORGIA  
S.26 LOUISIANA TECH\*  
O. 3 UTAH\*  
O.10 SMU\*  
O.17 UNLV\*  
O.24 RICE\*  
O.31 TCU  
N. 7 COLORADO STATE  
N.14 AIR FORCE\*  
N.21 TULSA

### LA INDEPENDENTS

### ARKANSAS STATE JONESBORO, ARK. (2-9)

S. 5 MINNESOTA  
S.12 LSU  
S.19 SW MISSOURI STATE\*  
S.26 HAWAII  
O. 3 NEW MEXICO STATE\*  
O.10 IDAHO\*  
O.17 SW LOUISIANA  
O.24 MISSISSIPPI  
O.31 MEMPHIS  
N. 7 LOUISIANA TECH\*  
N.14 NE LOUISIANA\*  
N.21 CINCINNATI\*

### CENTRAL FLORIDA ORLANDO, FLA. (5-6)

S. 5 LOUISIANA TECH  
S.12 EASTERN ILLINOIS\*  
S.19 PURDUE  
S.26 BOWLING GREEN  
O. 3 TOLEDO  
O.10 NORTHERN ILLINOIS\*  
O.24 SW LOUISIANA  
O.31 YOUNGSTOWN STATE\*  
N. 7 AUBURN  
N.14 BALL STATE\*  
N.21 NEW MEXICO\*

### LOUISIANA TECH RUSTON, LA. (9-2)

S. 5 CENTRAL FLORIDA\*  
S.12 TEXAS A&M  
S.26 WEST VIRGINIA  
O. 3 BOISE STATE\*  
O.10 NE LOUISIANA  
O.17 UAB\*  
O.24 AUBURN  
O.31 NICHOLLS STATE  
N. 7 ARKANSAS STATE  
N.14 SW LOUISIANA\*  
N.26 TULANE

### NAVY ANNAPOLIS, MD. (7-4)

S.10 WAKE FOREST  
S.19 KENT\*  
S.26 TULANE  
O. 3 WEST VIRGINIA\*  
O.10 AIR FORCE  
O.17 COLGATE\*  
O.24 BOSTON COLLEGE  
N. 7 RUTGERS\*  
N.14 NOTRE DAME\*  
D. 5 ARMY\*  
@WASHINGTON, D.C.  
@PHILADELPHIA, PA.

### NE LOUISIANA MONROE, LA. (5-7)

S. 5 NICHOLLS STATE\*  
S.12 FLORIDA  
S.19 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN\*  
S.26 KANSAS STATE  
O. 3 WESTERN MICHIGAN  
O.10 LOUISIANA TECH\*  
O.24 ARIZONA  
O.31 UAB\*  
N. 7 SW LOUISIANA\*  
N.14 ARKANSAS STATE  
N.21 PORTLAND STATE\*

### NOTRE DAME SOUTH BEND, IND. (7-5)

S. 5 MICHIGAN\*  
S.12 MICHIGAN STATE  
S.26 PURDUE\*  
O. 3 STANFORD\*  
O.10 ARIZONA STATE  
O.24 ARMY\*  
O.31 BAYLOR\*  
N. 7 BOSTON COLLEGE  
N.14 NAVY\*  
N.21 LSU  
N.28 USC  
@WASHINGTON, D.C.

### SW LOUISIANA LAFAYETTE, LA. (1-10)

S. 5 ARKANSAS  
S.19 LOUISIANA TECH  
S.26 OKLAHOMA STATE  
O. 3 UAB  
O.17 ARKANSAS STATE\*  
O.24 CENTRAL FLORIDA\*  
O.31 TULANE  
N. 7 NE LOUISIANA

### UAB BIRMINGHAM, ALA. (5-6)

S. 5 NEBRASKA  
S.19 TENNESSEE TECH\*  
S.26 KANSAS\*  
O. 3 SW LOUISIANA\*  
O.10 EAST CAROLINA  
O.17 LOUISIANA TECH  
O.24 VIRGINIA TECH\*  
O.31 NE LOUISIANA  
N. 7 TENNESSEE  
N.14 MIDDLE TENNESSEE\*  
N.21 TENNESSEE-MARTIN\*

### ATLANTIC 10

### CONNECTICUT STORRS, CONN. (7-4)

S. 5 COLGATE  
S.19 MAINE\*  
S.26 YALE  
O. 3 NEW HAMPSHIRE  
O.10 HOUSTON\*  
O.17 MASSACHUSETTS\*  
O.24 RHODE ISLAND\*  
O.31 NORTHEASTERN  
N. 7 DELAWARE\*  
N.14 WILLIAM & MARY  
N.21 MASSACHUSETTS



# Ore Ida<sup>®</sup>

## ALL-STAR



# LINEUP



## Join the Winning Team!



# 1998 college schedules

## \* Home game

### DELAWARE

NEWARK, DEL.  
(11-1)  
S. 5 MASSACHUSETTS\*  
S.12 VILLANOVA  
S.19 WEST CHESTER\*  
S.26 NEW HAMPSHIRE\*  
O. 3 NORTHEASTERN\*  
O.10 WILLIAM & MARY  
O.17 YOUNGSTOWN STATE  
O.31 MAINE\*  
N. 7 CONNECTICUT  
N.14 RICHMOND  
N.21 JAMES MADISON\*

### JAMES MADISON

HARRISONBURG, VA.  
(5-6)  
S. 5 MARYLAND  
S.12 HOFSTRA\*  
S.19 VILLANOVA\*  
S.26 ELON\*  
O. 3 RICHMOND  
O.10 MASSACHUSETTS  
O.17 WILLIAM & MARY\*  
O.24 MAINE\*  
O.31 RHODE ISLAND  
N. 7 NORTHEASTERN\*  
N.21 DELAWARE

### MAINE

ORONO, MAINE  
(5-6)  
S. 5 BUFFALO\*  
S.12 NEW HAMPSHIRE\*  
S.19 CONNECTICUT\*  
S.26 DARTMOUTH\*  
O. 3 VILLANOVA\*  
O.10 RHODE ISLAND\*  
O.17 RICHMOND\*  
O.24 JAMES MADISON  
O.31 DELAWARE  
N.14 MASSACHUSETTS  
N.21 NORTHEASTERN\*

### MASSACHUSETTS

AMHERST, MASS.  
(2-9)  
S. 5 DELAWARE  
S.12 RICHMOND  
S.19 BUFFALO\*  
O. 3 HOFSTRA  
O.10 JAMES MADISON\*  
O.17 CONNECTICUT  
O.24 VILLANOVA\*  
O.31 NEW HAMPSHIRE  
N. 7 RHODE ISLAND  
N.14 MAINE\*  
N.21 CONNECTICUT\*

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

DURHAM, N.H.  
(5-6)  
S. 5 NORTHEASTERN  
S.12 MAINE  
S.26 DELAWARE  
O. 3 CONNECTICUT\*  
O.10 RICHMOND\*  
O.17 NORTHEASTERN\*  
O.24 WILLIAM & MARY  
O.31 MASSACHUSETTS\*  
N. 7 HOFSTRA  
N.14 RHODE ISLAND\*

### NORTHEASTERN

BOSTON, MASS.  
(8-3)  
S. 5 NEW HAMPSHIRE\*  
S.12 LAFAYETTE\*  
S.19 WILLIAM & MARY  
S.26 RHODE ISLAND\*  
O. 3 DELAWARE  
O.10 VILLANOVA\*  
O.17 NEW HAMPSHIRE  
O.24 RICHMOND\*  
O.31 CONNECTICUT\*  
N. 7 JAMES MADISON  
N.21 MAINE

### RHODE ISLAND

KINGSTON, R.I.  
(2-9)  
S. 5 WILLIAM & MARY\*  
S.19 RICHMOND\*  
S.26 NORTHEASTERN  
O. 3 BROWN\*  
O.10 MAINE  
O.17 HOFSTRA  
O.24 CONNECTICUT  
O.31 JAMES MADISON\*  
N.14 MASSACHUSETTS\*  
N.21 NEW HAMPSHIRE  
N.21 VILLANOVA

### RICHMOND

RICHMOND, VA.  
(6-5)  
S. 5 RUTGERS  
S.12 MASSACHUSETTS\*  
S.19 RHODE ISLAND  
S.26 PENNSYLVANIA  
O. 3 JAMES MADISON\*  
O.10 NEW HAMPSHIRE  
O.17 MAINE  
O.24 NORTHEASTERN  
O.31 VILLANOVA  
N.14 DELAWARE\*  
N.21 WILLIAM & MARY\*

### VILLANOVA

VILLANOVA, PA.  
(12-0)  
S. 5 PITTSBURGH  
S.12 DELAWARE\*  
S.19 JAMES MADISON  
S.26 WILLIAM & MARY\*  
O. 3 TEMPLE  
O.10 NORTHEASTERN  
O.24 MASSACHUSETTS  
O.31 FORDHAM  
N. 7 RICHMOND\*  
N.14 BUFFALO\*  
N.21 RHODE ISLAND\*

### WILLIAM & MARY

WILLIAMSBURG, VA.  
(7-4)  
S. 5 RHODE ISLAND  
S.12 VMI\*  
S.19 NORTHEASTERN\*  
S.26 VILLANOVA  
O. 3 TEMPLE  
O.10 DELAWARE\*  
O.17 JAMES MADISON  
O.24 NEW HAMPSHIRE\*  
O.31 HAMPTON  
N. 7 CONNECTICUT\*  
N.21 RICHMOND

### BIG SKY

CAL ST.-NORTHRIE  
NORTHRIE, CALIF.  
(6-6)  
S. 5 BOISE STATE  
S.19 NORTHERN ARIZONA  
S.26 E. WASHINGTON\*  
O. 3 SOUTHERN UTAH\*  
O.10 MONTANA\*  
O.17 CAL ST. SACRAMENTO  
O.24 MONTANA STATE\*  
O.31 WEBER STATE\*  
N. 7 PORTLAND STATE\*  
N.14 SW MISSOURI STATE  
N.21 IDAHO STATE

### CAL ST. SACRAMENTO

SACRAMENTO, CALIF.  
(1-10)  
S. 5 ST. MARY'S  
S.12 CAL POLY SLO\*  
S.19 UC DAVIS  
S.26 MONTANA STATE  
O. 3 WEBER STATE\*  
O.10 PORTLAND STATE  
O.17 CAL ST. NORTHRIE\*  
O.24 NORTHERN ARIZONA  
O.31 E. WASHINGTON\*  
N. 7 IDAHO STATE  
N.14 MONTANA\*

### E. WASHINGTON

CHENY, WASH.  
(11-1)  
S. 5 IDAHO  
S.12 PORTLAND STATE  
S.26 CAL ST. NORTHRIE  
O. 3 NORTHERN ARIZONA\*  
O.10 W. WASHINGTON\*  
O.17 IDAHO STATE  
O.24 MONTANA\*  
O.31 CAL ST. SACRAMENTO  
N. 7 MONTANA STATE\*  
N.14 WEBER STATE  
N.21 SOUTHERN UTAH

### IDAHO STATE

POCATELLO, IDAHO  
(3-8)  
S. 5 NEW MEXICO  
S.19 WEBER STATE  
S.26 PORTLAND STATE  
O. 3 IDAHO  
O.10 NORTHERN ARIZONA  
O.17 E. WASHINGTON\*  
O.24 SOUTHERN UTAH\*  
O.31 MONTANA  
N. 7 CAL ST. SACRAMENTO\*  
N.14 MONTANA STATE  
N.21 CAL ST. NORTHRIE\*

### MONTANA

MISSOULA, MONT.  
(8-4)  
S. 5 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN  
S.12 SOUTHERN UTAH\*  
S.19 CAL POLY SLO\*  
S.26 WEBER STATE  
O. 3 PORTLAND STATE\*  
O.10 NORTHERN ARIZONA  
O.17 E. WASHINGTON\*  
O.24 SOUTHERN UTAH\*  
O.31 MONTANA  
N. 7 CAL ST. SACRAMENTO\*  
N.14 MONTANA STATE  
N.21 CAL ST. NORTHRIE\*

### MONTANA STATE

BOZEMAN, MONT.  
(6-5)  
S. 5 FORT LEWIS\*  
S.12 WYOMING  
S.19 W. WASHINGTON\*  
S.26 CAL ST. SACRAMENTO\*  
O. 3 WEBER STATE  
O.10 PORTLAND STATE\*  
O.17 CAL ST. NORTHRIE  
O.24 NORTHERN ARIZONA\*  
O.31 E. WASHINGTON  
N. 7 IDAHO STATE\*  
N.21 MONTANA

### NORTHERN ARIZONA

FLAGSTAFF, ARIZ.  
(6-5)  
S. 5 CAL POLY SLO  
S.12 SW TEXAS STATE\*  
S.19 CAL ST. NORTHRIE\*  
S.26 WESTERN STATE\*  
O. 3 E. WASHINGTON  
O.10 IDAHO STATE\*  
O.17 MONTANA  
O.24 CAL ST. SACRAMENTO\*  
O.31 MONTANA STATE  
N. 7 WEBER STATE  
N.14 PORTLAND STATE

### PORTLAND STATE

PORTLAND, ORE.  
(4-7)  
S.12 E. WASHINGTON  
S.19 BOISE STATE  
S.26 IDAHO STATE\*  
O. 3 MONTANA  
O.10 CAL ST. SACRAMENTO\*  
O.17 MONTANA STATE\*  
O.24 WEBER STATE\*  
O.31 CAL POLY SLO\*  
N. 7 CAL ST. NORTHRIE  
N.14 NORTHERN ARIZONA\*  
N.21 NE LOUISIANA

### WEBER STATE

OGDEN, UTAH  
(6-5)  
S. 3 MONTANA TECH\*  
S.12 HUMBOLDT STATE\*  
S.19 IDAHO STATE\*  
S.26 MONTANA\*  
O. 3 CAL ST. SACRAMENTO  
O.10 MONTANA STATE\*  
O.17 BOISE STATE  
O.24 PORTLAND STATE  
O.31 CAL ST. NORTHRIE\*  
N. 7 NORTHERN ARIZONA  
N.14 E. WASHINGTON\*

### GATEWAY

ILLINOIS STATE  
NORMAN, ILL.  
(2-9)  
S. 5 KANSAS  
S.12 ST. FRANCIS\*  
S.26 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS\*  
O. 3 INDIANA STATE  
O.10 NORTHERN IOWA  
O.17 EASTERN ILLINOIS  
O.24 YALE  
O.31 PRINCETON\*  
N. 7 DARTMOUTH\*  
N.14 CORNELL\*  
N.21 BROWN\*

### INDIANA STATE

TERRE HAUTE, IND.  
(3-8)  
S. 5 KANSAS STATE  
S.12 SE MISSOURI STATE  
S.19 YOUNGSTOWN STATE  
S.26 ST. JOSEPH'S\*  
O. 3 ILLINOIS STATE\*  
O.17 SW MISSOURI STATE  
O.24 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS  
O.31 NORTHERN IOWA\*  
N. 7 WESTERN ILLINOIS  
N.14 WESTERN KENTUCKY  
N.21 MURRAY STATE\*

### NORTHERN IOWA

CEDAR FALLS, IOWA  
(7-4)  
S. 3 EASTERN MICHIGAN  
S.12 MCNEESE STATE\*  
S.19 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS  
S.26 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN  
O. 3 SW MISSOURI STATE\*  
O.10 ILLINOIS STATE\*  
O.17 CAL POLY SLO\*  
O.31 INDIANA STATE  
N. 7 YOUNGSTOWN STATE  
N.14 WESTERN ILLINOIS\*  
N.21 WINONA STATE\*

### SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

CARBONDALE, ILL.  
(3-8)  
S. 5 MURRAY STATE  
S.12 TENNESSEE-MARTIN\*  
S.19 NORTHERN IOWA\*  
S.26 ILLINOIS STATE  
O. 3 SW TEXAS STATE\*  
O.10 YOUNGSTOWN STATE  
O.17 WESTERN ILLINOIS\*  
O.24 INDIANA STATE  
O.31 SW MISSOURI STATE  
N. 7 WESTERN KENTUCKY  
N.14 SE MISSOURI STATE\*

### SW MISSOURI STATE

SPRINGFIELD, MO.  
(5-6)  
S. 5 TULSA  
S.12 HARDING\*  
S.19 ARKANSAS STATE  
O. 3 NORTHERN IOWA  
O.10 WESTERN ILLINOIS\*  
O.17 INDIANA STATE  
O.24 SE MISSOURI STATE  
O.31 NORTHERN ILLINOIS\*  
N. 7 ILLINOIS STATE  
N.14 CAL ST. NORTHRIE\*  
N.21 YOUNGSTOWN STATE\*

### WESTERN ILLINOIS

MACOMB, ILL.  
(11-1)  
S. 3 ST. CLOUD STATE\*  
S.12 CENTRAL MICHIGAN  
S.19 ELON  
S.26 SOUTHERN UTAH\*  
O.10 YOUNGSTOWN STATE\*  
O.17 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS  
O.24 ILLINOIS STATE\*  
O.31 BUFFALO  
N. 7 INDIANA STATE\*  
N.14 NORTHERN IOWA

### YOUNGSTOWN STATE

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO  
(10-2)  
S. 3 CLARION\*  
S.12 KENT  
O. 3 INDIANA STATE\*  
O. 3 WESTERN ILLINOIS  
O.10 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS\*  
O.17 DELAWARE\*  
O.24 NEW HAVEN\*  
O.31 CENTRAL FLORIDA  
N. 7 NORTHERN IOWA\*  
N.14 ILLINOIS STATE  
N.21 SW MISSOURI STATE

### IVY LEAGUE

BROWN  
PROVIDENCE, R.I.  
(6-4)  
S.19 YALE\*  
S.26 LAFAYETTE  
O. 3 RHODE ISLAND  
O.10 PRINCETON  
O.17 FORDHAM\*  
O.24 PENNSYLVANIA\*  
O.31 CORNELL  
N. 7 HARVARD  
N.14 DARTMOUTH\*  
N.21 COLUMBIA

### COLUMBIA

NEW YORK, N.Y.  
(3-7)  
S.19 HARVARD\*  
S.26 BUCKNELL  
O. 3 ST. MARY'S  
O.10 LEHIGH\*  
O.17 PENNSYLVANIA  
O.24 YALE  
O.31 PRINCETON\*  
N. 7 DARTMOUTH\*  
N.14 CORNELL\*  
N.21 BROWN\*

### CORNELL

TERRE HAUTE, N.Y.  
(5-5)  
S.19 PRINCETON\*  
S.26 HOLY CROSS  
O. 3 LEHIGH\*  
O.10 HARVARD  
O.17 BUCKNELL\*  
O.24 DARTMOUTH\*  
O.31 BROWN\*  
N. 7 YALE  
N.14 COLUMBIA  
N.21 PENNSYLVANIA\*

### DARTMOUTH

HANOVER, N.H.  
(8-2)  
S.19 PENNSYLVANIA\*  
S.26 MAINE  
O. 3 LAFAYETTE\*  
O.10 COLGATE  
O.17 YALE\*  
O.24 CORNELL  
O.31 HARVARD\*  
N. 7 COLUMBIA\*  
N.14 BROWN  
N.21 PRINCETON

### HARVARD

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.  
(9-1)  
S.19 COLUMBIA  
S.26 COLGATE  
O. 3 LEHIGH\*  
O.10 CORNELL\*  
O.17 HOLY CROSS\*  
O.24 PRINCETON  
O.31 DARTMOUTH  
N. 7 BROWN\*  
N.14 PENNSYLVANIA  
N.21 YALE\*

### PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
(6-4)  
S.19 DARTMOUTH  
S.26 RICHMOND\*  
O. 3 BUCKNELL\*  
O.10 FORDHAM  
O.17 COLUMBIA\*  
O.24 BROWN  
O.31 YALE\*  
N. 7 PRINCETON  
N.14 HARVARD\*  
N.21 CORNELL

### PRINCETON

PRINCETON, N.J.  
(5-5)  
S.19 CORNELL  
S.26 LEHIGH\*  
O. 3 FORDHAM\*  
O.10 BROWN\*  
O.17 LAFAYETTE  
O.24 HARVARD\*  
O.31 COLUMBIA  
N. 7 PENNSYLVANIA\*  
N.14 YALE\*  
N.21 DARTMOUTH\*

### YALE

NEW HAVEN, CONN.  
(1-9)  
S.19 BROWN  
S.26 CONNECTICUT\*  
O. 3 COLGATE\*  
O.10 HOLY CROSS\*  
O.17 DARTMOUTH  
O.24 COLUMBIA\*  
O.31 PENNSYLVANIA  
O.24 CORNELL\*  
N. 7 PRINCETON\*  
N.14 HARVARD  
N.21 DARTMOUTH\*

### METRO ATLANTIC

CANISUS  
BUFFALO, N.Y.  
(3-7)  
S.12 GANNON  
S.19 ST. PETER'S\*  
S.26 SIENA\*  
O. 3 IONA  
O.10 GEORGETOWN  
O.17 BUFFALO  
O.24 FAIRFIELD  
O.31 ST. JOHN'S\*  
N. 7 MARIST  
N.14 DUQUESNE\*

### DUQUESNE

PITTSBURGH, PA.  
(7-3)  
S. 5 BUCKNELL\*  
S.12 ST. FRANCIS  
S.19 SIENA  
S.26 ST. JOHN'S  
O. 3 FAIRFIELD\*  
O.10 MARIST\*  
O.17 GEORGETOWN\*  
O.24 IONA\*  
N. 7 ST. PETER'S  
N.14 CANISUS  
N.21 ROBERT MORRIS\*

### FAIRFIELD

FAIRFIELD, CONN.  
(7-3)  
S. 5 HOLY CROSS  
S.12 IONA\*  
S.19 MARIST  
S.26 GEORGETOWN\*  
O. 3 DUQUESNE  
O.17 SAN DIEGO  
O.24 CANISUS\*  
O.31 SIENA  
N. 7 ST. JOHN'S  
N.14 ST. PETER'S\*  
N.21 CENTRAL CONN. ST.

### GEORGETOWN

WASHINGTON, D.C.  
(8-3)  
S.12 MARIST\*  
S.19 HOLY CROSS\*  
S.26 FAIRFIELD  
O. 3 SIENA  
O.10 CANISUS\*  
O.17 ST. JOHN'S  
O.24 DUQUESNE  
O.31 ST. PETER'S\*  
N. 7 IONA\*  
N.14 AUSTIN PEAY\*  
N.21 FORDHAM

### IONA

NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y.  
(10-10)  
S.12 FAIRFIELD  
S.19 LA SALLE\*  
S.26 SACRED HEART  
O. 3 CANISUS\*  
O.10 SIENA\*  
O.17 MARIST  
O.24 ST. PETER'S\*  
O.31 DUQUESNE  
N. 7 GEORGETOWN  
N.14 ST. JOHN'S\*

### MARIST

POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y.  
(6-4)  
S. 4 WESTERN CONN. ST.  
S.12 GEORGETOWN  
S.19 FAIRFIELD\*  
S.26 ST. PETER'S  
O. 3 ST. JOHN'S\*  
O.17 FLORIDA A&M  
O.24 DUQUESNE  
O.17 IONA\*  
O.24 WAGNER  
O.31 ST. FRANCIS\*  
N. 7 CANISUS\*  
N.14 SIENA

### ST. JOHN'S

JAMAICA, N.Y.  
(8-3)  
S. 5 SACRED HEART  
S.12 CENTRAL CONN. ST.  
S.19 STONY BROOK\*  
S.26 DUQUESNE\*  
O. 3 MARIST  
O.10 ST. PETER'S  
O.17 GEORGETOWN\*  
O.23 SIENA\*  
O.31 CANISUS  
N. 7 FAIRFIELD\*  
N.14 IONA

### ST. PETER'S

JERSEY CITY, N.J.  
(1-9)  
S.12 LA SALLE  
S.19 CANISUS  
S.26 MARIST\*  
O. 10 ST. JOHN'S\*  
O.17 SIENA\*  
O.24 IONA  
O.31 GEORGETOWN  
N. 7 DUQUESNE\*  
N.14 FAIRFIELD

### SIENA

LOUDONVILLE, N.Y.  
(6-3)  
S.12 SACRED HEART\*  
S.19 DUQUESNE\*  
S.26 CANISUS  
O. 3 GEORGETOWN\*  
O.10 IONA  
O.17 ST. PETER'S  
O.23 ST. JOHN'S  
O.31 FAIRFIELD\*  
N. 7 BRYANT  
N.14 MARIST\*

### MID-EASTERN

BETHUNE-COOKMAN  
DAYTONA BEACH, FLA.  
(4-7)  
S. 5 SAVANNAH STATE\*  
S.12 MORGAN STATE  
S.19 TEXAS SOUTHERN\*  
O. 3 HOWARD  
O.10 DELAWARE STATE\*  
O.17 SOUTH CAROLINA ST.  
O.31 NORTH CAROLINA A&T  
N. 7 HAMPTON  
N.14 NORFOLK STATE\*  
N.21 FLORIDA A&M

### DELAWARE STATE

DOVER, DEL.  
(3-8)  
S. 5 HOFSTRA  
S.12 ELON  
S.19 NORFOLK STATE  
O. 3 FLORIDA A&M\*  
O.10 BETHUNE-COOKMAN\*  
O.17 LIBERTY  
O.24 MORGAN STATE  
O.31 SOUTH CAROLINA ST.\*  
N. 7 NORTH CAROLINA A&T\*  
N.14 HAMPTON\*  
N.21 HOWARD

### FLORIDA A&M

TALLAHASSEE, FLA.  
(9-3)  
S. 5 HAMPTON\*  
S.12 NORFOLK STATE  
S.19 JACKSON STATE  
S.26 TENNESSEE STATE  
O. 3 DELAWARE STATE  
O.10 NORTH CAROLINA A&T\*  
O.17 HOWARD\*  
O.31 MORGAN STATE\*  
N. 7 SOUTHERN  
N.14 SOUTH CAROLINA ST.  
N.21 BETHUNE-COOKMAN\*

### HAMPTON

HAMPTON, VA.  
(10-2)  
S. 5 FLORIDA A&M  
S.12 HOWARD  
S.19 NORTH CAROLINA A&T\*  
S.26 GRAMBLING STATE  
O. 3 LIBERTY\*  
O.17 NORFOLK STATE\*  
O.24 SOUTH CAROLINA ST.  
O.31 WILLIAM & MARY\*  
N. 7 BETHUNE-COOKMAN\*  
N.14 DELAWARE STATE  
N.21 MORGAN STATE  
@EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.

### HOWARD

WASHINGTON, D.C.  
(7-4)  
S. 5 JACKSON STATE\*  
S.12 HAMPTON\*  
S.19 ARK.-PINE BLUFF\*  
O. 3 BETHUNE-COOKMAN\*  
O.10 FLORIDA A&M  
O.24 NORTH CAROLINA A&T\*  
O.31 NORFOLK STATE\*  
N. 7 SOUTH CAROLINA ST.  
N.14 MORGAN STATE  
N.21 DELAWARE STATE\*  
@ST. LOUIS, MO.

### MORGAN STATE

BALTIMORE, MD.  
(13-7)  
S. 5 TOWSON STATE  
S.12 BETHUNE-COOKMAN\*  
S.19 NORFOLK STATE\*  
O. 3 SOUTH CAROLINA ST.  
O.10 BUFFALO  
O.17 NORTH CAROLINA A&T  
O.24 DELAWARE STATE\*  
O.31 FLORIDA A&M  
N. 7 SAMFORD  
N.14 HOWARD  
N.21 HAMPTON\*

### NORFOLK STATE

NORFOLK, VA.  
(3-7)  
S. 5 VIRGINIA STATE  
S.12 FLORIDA A&M\*  
S.19 DELAWARE STATE\*  
S.26 MORGAN STATE  
O. 3 NORTH CAROLINA A&T  
O.10 SOUTH CAROLINA ST.\*  
O.17 HAMPTON  
O.24 VIRGINIA UNION\*  
O.31 HOWARD  
N. 7 LIBERTY  
N.14 BETHUNE-COOKMAN

### NORTH CAROLINA A&T

GREENSBORO, N.C.  
(7-4)  
S. 5 NC CENTRAL @  
S.12 WINSTON-SALEM ST.\*  
S.19 HAMPTON  
S.26 FAYETTEVILLE STATE\*  
O. 3 SE MISSOURI STATE\*  
O.10 ILLINOIS STATE\*  
O.17 MORGAN STATE\*  
O.24 HOWARD  
O.31 BETHUNE-COOKMAN\*  
N. 7 DELAWARE STATE  
N.21 SOUTH CAROLINA ST.\*  
@RALEIGH, N.C.  
@CHARLOTTE, N.C.

### SOUTH CAROLINA STATE

ORANGEBURG, S.C.  
(4-7)  
S. 5 CHARLESTON SO.  
S.12 FURMAN  
S.26 J.C. SMITH\*  
O. 3 MORGAN STATE\*  
O.17 BETHUNE-COOKMAN\*  
O.24 HAMPTON\*  
O.31 DELAWARE STATE  
N. 7 HOWARD  
N.14 FLORIDA A&M  
N.21 NORTH CAROLINA A&T\*  
@CHARLOTTE, N.C.

### NORTHEAST

CENTRAL CONN. ST.  
NEW BRITAIN, CT.  
(5-5)  
S. 5 ALBANY  
S.12 ST. JOHN'S\*  
S.19 FROSTBURG STATE  
S.26 ROBERT MORRIS  
O. 3 SAN DIEGO  
O.10 ST. FRANCIS\*  
O.17 WAGNER  
O.24 SACRED HEART  
N. 7 N. CONNECTICUT  
N.14 MONMOUTH  
N.21 FAIRFIELD\*

### MONMOUTH

W. LONG BRANCH, N.J.  
(5-4)  
S. 5 DAYTON\*  
S.12 TOWSON\*  
S.19 ALBANY  
O. 3 LA SALLE  
O.10 GEORGE MASON  
O.17 ST. FRANCIS\*  
O.24 ROBERT MORRIS  
O.31 SACRED HEART  
N. 7 WAGNER  
N.14 CENTRAL CONN. ST.\*

### ROBERT MORRIS

CORAPOLIS, PA.  
(8-3)  
S. 5 BUFFALO STATE  
S.12 DAYTON  
S.26 CENTRAL CONN. ST.\*  
O. 3 WAGNER  
O.10 VALPARAISO\*  
O.17 SACRED HEART\*  
O.24 MONMOUTH\*  
N. 7 ST. FRANCIS  
N.14 NEW HAVEN\*  
N.21 DUQUESNE

### SACRED HEART

FAIRFIELD, CONN.  
(11-9)  
S. 5 ST. JOHN'S\*  
S.12 SIENA  
S.19 WAGNER\*  
O. 3 TENNESSEE STATE\*  
O.10 ST. FRANCIS  
O.17 ROBERT MORRIS  
O.24 CENTRAL CONN. ST.  
O.31 MONMOUTH  
N.14 BRYANT\*

### ST. FRANCIS

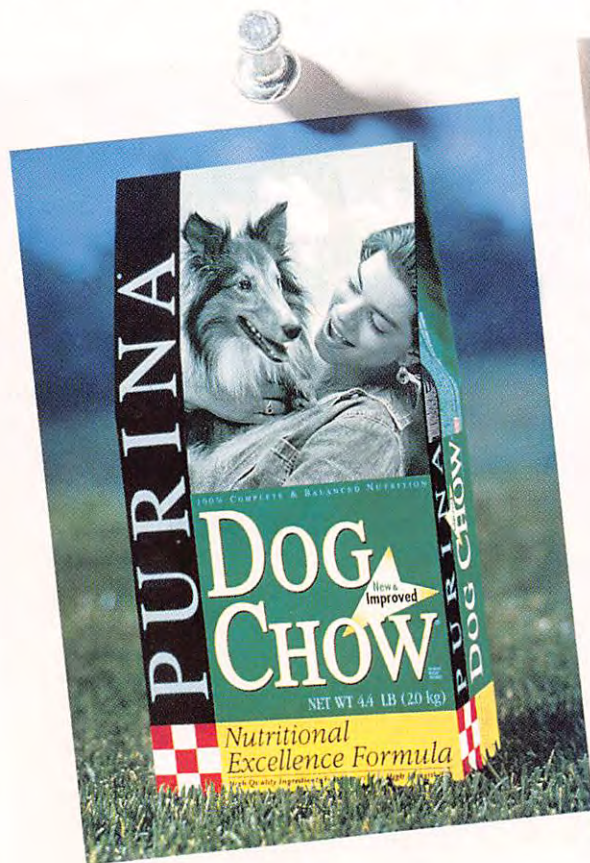
LORETTA, PA.  
(2-9)  
S.12 DUQUESNE\*  
S.19 BUTLER  
S.26 WAGNER\*  
O. 3 SACRED HEART\*  
O.10 CENTRAL CONN. ST.  
O.17 MONMOUTH  
O.31 MARIST  
N. 7 ROBERT MORRIS\*  
N.14 LA SALLE\*

### WAGNER

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y.



America's most popular  
dry dog food just got better.



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New Purina Dog Chow Nutritional Excellence Formula is made with high-quality ingredients like poultry protein and rice and is formulated for high digestibility.

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# 1998 college schedules

## \* Home game

### TENNESSEE TECH COOKEVILLE, TENN. (4-7)

S. 3 KENTUCKY WESLEYAN\*  
S.19 UAB  
S.26 EASTERN ILLINOIS  
O. 3 MIDDLE TENNESSEE\*  
O.10 SE MISSOURI STATE  
O.17 TENNESSEE-MARTIN  
O.24 EASTERN KENTUCKY\*  
O.31 MURRAY STATE  
N. 7 TENNESSEE STATE\*  
N.14 WESTERN CAROLINA\*  
N.21 SAMFORD\*

### TENNESSEE-MARTIN MARTIN, TENN. (1-10)

S. 3 WESTERN KENTUCKY  
S.12 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS\*  
S.26 SE MISSOURI STATE  
O. 3 MURRAY STATE  
O.10 SAMFORD  
O.17 TENNESSEE TECH\*  
O.24 TENNESSEE STATE  
O.31 EASTERN KENTUCKY\*  
N. 7 MIDDLE TENNESSEE\*  
N.14 EASTERN ILLINOIS\*  
N.21 UAB

### \*PATRIOT BUTLER LEWISBURG, PA. (10-1)

S. 5 DUQUESNE  
S.12 ST. MARY'S\*  
S.19 FORDHAM\*  
S.26 COLUMBIA\*  
O. 3 PENNSYLVANIA  
O.17 CORNELL  
O.24 LAFAYETTE\*  
O.31 COLGATE\*  
N. 7 HOLY CROSS  
N.14 LEHIGH  
N.21 TOWSON\*

### COLGATE HAMILTON, N.Y. (7-5)

S. 5 CONNECTICUT\*  
S.19 TOWSON  
S.26 HARVARD\*  
O. 3 YALE  
O.10 DARTMOUTH\*  
O.17 NAVY  
O.24 FORDHAM  
O.31 BUCKNELL  
N. 7 LEHIGH  
N.14 LAFAYETTE\*  
N.21 HOLY CROSS\*

### FORDHAM BRONX, N.Y. (5-6)

S.12 LEHIGH  
S.19 BUCKNELL  
S.26 TOWSON  
O. 3 PRINCETON  
O.10 PENNSYLVANIA\*  
O.17 BROWN  
O.24 COLGATE\*  
O.31 VILLANOVA\*  
N. 7 LAFAYETTE\*  
N.14 HOLY CROSS  
N.21 GEORGETOWN\*

### HOLY CROSS WORCHESTER, MASS. (4-7)

S. 5 FAIRFIELD\*  
S.19 GEORGETOWN  
S.26 CORNELL\*  
O. 3 TOWSON\*  
O.10 YALE  
O.17 HARVARD  
O.24 LEHIGH\*  
O.31 LAFAYETTE  
N. 7 BUCKNELL\*  
N.14 FORDHAM\*  
N.21 COLGATE

### LAFAYETTE EASTON, PA. (3-8)

S.12 NORTHEASTERN  
S.19 BUFFALO\*  
S.26 BROWN\*  
O. 3 DARTMOUTH  
O.10 TOWSON  
O.17 PRINCETON\*  
O.24 BUCKNELL  
O.31 HOLY CROSS\*  
N. 7 FORDHAM  
N.14 COLGATE  
N.21 LEHIGH\*

### LEHIGH BETHLEHEM, PA. (4-7)

S.12 FORDHAM\*  
S.19 ST. MARY'S  
S.26 PRINCETON  
O. 3 HARVARD  
O.10 COLUMBIA  
O.17 TOWSON\*  
O.24 HOLY CROSS  
O.31 WOFFORD\*  
N. 7 COLGATE\*  
N.14 BUCKNELL\*  
N.21 LAFAYETTE

### TOWSON TOWSON, MD. (2-8)

S. 5 MORGAN STATE\*  
S.12 MONMOUTH  
S.19 COLGATE\*  
S.26 FORDHAM\*  
O. 3 HOLY CROSS  
O.10 LAFAYETTE\*  
O.17 LEHIGH  
O.31 ST. MARY'S\*  
N. 7 DAYTON  
N.14 DRAKE\*  
N.21 BUCKNELL

### \*PIONEER BUTLER INDIANAPOLIS, IND. (6-4)

S. 5 ALBION\*  
S.12 MOREHEAD STATE  
S.19 ST. FRANCIS\*  
S.26 ST. JOSEPH'S  
O. 3 DAYTON\*  
O.10 SAN DIEGO\*  
O.17 VALPARAISO  
O.31 DRAKE  
N. 7 QUINCY  
N.14 LINDENWOOD\*

### DAYTON DAYTON, OH. (9-1)

S. 5 MONMOUTH  
S.12 ROBERT MORRIS\*  
S.19 AUSTIN PEAY  
S.26 MOREHEAD STATE\*  
O. 3 BUTLER  
O.10 DRAKE\*  
O.24 VALPARAISO  
N. 7 TOWSON\*  
N.14 SAN DIEGO

### DRAKE DES MOINES, IA. (8-3)

S. 5 MORNINGSIDES\*  
S.12 ST. AMBROSE  
S.19 WISC. LACROSSE\*  
S.26 QUINCY  
O. 3 VALPARAISO\*  
O.10 DAYTON  
O.24 SAN DIEGO\*  
O.31 BUTLER\*  
N. 7 ST. MARY'S  
N.14 TOWSON

### SAN DIEGO SAN DIEGO, CALIF. (8-3)

S. 5 AZUSA PACIFIC\*  
S.12 WAGNER  
S.19 REIDLANDS\*  
S.26 CALIF. LUTHERAN  
O. 3 CENTRAL CONN. ST.\*  
O.10 BUTLER  
O.17 FAIRFIELD\*  
O.24 DRAKE  
O.31 VALPARAISO\*  
N.14 DAYTON\*

### VALPARAISO VALPARAISO, IND. (3-7)

S. 5 TRI-STATE\*  
S.12 SOUTH FLORIDA  
S.19 MOREHEAD STATE\*  
O. 3 DRAKE  
O.10 ROBERT MORRIS  
O.17 BUTLER\*  
O.24 DAYTON\*  
O.31 SAN DIEGO  
N. 7 ST. JOSEPH'S  
N.14 AURORA\*  
N.21 AUSTIN PEAY\*

### SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN STATE BOONE, N.C. (7-4)

S.12 E. TENNESSEE ST.  
S.19 LIBERTY\*  
O. 3 THE CITADEL\*  
O.10 WAKE FOREST  
O.10 FURMAN\*  
O.17 GEORGIA SOUTHERN  
O.24 WOFFORD\*  
N. 7 CHATTANOOGA  
N. 7 VMI\*  
N.14 EASTERN KENTUCKY  
N.21 WESTERN CAROLINA

### CHATTANOOGA CHATTANOOGA, TENN. (7-4)

S. 5 SAMFORD\*  
S.12 EAST CAROLINA  
S.19 TROY STATE\*  
S.26 GEORGIA SOUTHERN\*  
O. 3 WOFFORD  
O.17 VMI\*  
O.24 WESTERN CAROLINA  
O.31 APPALACHIAN STATE\*  
N. 7 THE CITADEL  
N.14 E. TENNESSEE ST.\*  
N.21 FURMAN

### THE CITADEL CHARLESTON, S.C. (6-5)

S. 5 FLORIDA  
S.12 WOFFORD  
S.19 WESTERN CAROLINA\*  
S.26 APPALACHIAN STATE  
O. 3 SOUTH FLORIDA  
O.10 E. TENNESSEE ST.\*  
O.17 FURMAN  
O.24 GEORGIA SOUTHERN\*  
O.31 HOFSTRA\*  
N. 7 CHATTANOOGA\*  
N.14 VMI

### EAST TENNESSEE STATE JOHNSON CITY, TENN. (7-4)

S. 5 MIAMI FLORIDA  
S.12 APPALACHIAN STATE\*  
S.19 VMI\*  
S.26 WESTERN CAROLINA  
O.10 THE CITADEL  
O.17 MISSISSIPPI STATE  
O.24 FURMAN\*  
N. 7 GEORGIA SOUTHERN  
N. 7 WOFFORD\*  
N.14 CHATTANOOGA  
N.21 CHARLESTON SO.\*

### FURMAN GREENVILLE, S.C. (7-4)

S. 5 CLEMSON  
S.12 SOUTH CAROLINA ST.\*  
S.19 SAMFORD\*  
S.26 VMI  
O. 3 WESTERN CAROLINA\*  
O.10 APPALACHIAN STATE  
O.17 THE CITADEL\*  
O.24 E. TENNESSEE ST.  
N. 7 GEORGIA SOUTHERN\*  
N.14 WOFFORD  
N.21 CHATTANOOGA\*

### GEORGIA SOUTHERN STATESBORO, GA. (10-2)

S. 5 ELON\*  
S.12 JACKSONVILLE STATE\*  
S.19 WOFFORD\*  
S.26 CHATTANOOGA  
O. 3 VMI\*  
O.10 WESTERN CAROLINA  
O.17 APPALACHIAN STATE\*  
O.24 THE CITADEL  
O.31 E. TENNESSEE ST.\*  
N. 7 FURMAN  
N.14 SOUTH FLORIDA\*

### VMI LEXINGTON, VA. (0-11)

S. 5 LENOIR-RHYNE\*  
S.12 WILLIAM & MARY  
S.19 E. TENNESSEE ST.  
S.26 FURMAN\*  
O. 3 GEORGIA SOUTHERN  
O.10 WOFFORD\*  
O.17 CHATTANOOGA  
O.24 MOREHEAD STATE\*  
O.31 WESTERN CAROLINA\*  
N. 7 APPALACHIAN STATE  
N.14 THE CITADEL\*

### WESTERN CAROLINA CULLOWHEE, N.C. (3-8)

S. 5 DUKE  
S.19 THE CITADEL  
S.26 E. TENNESSEE ST.\*  
O. 3 FURMAN  
O.10 GEORGIA SOUTHERN\*  
O.17 WOFFORD  
O.24 CHATTANOOGA\*  
O.31 VMI  
N. 7 ELON\*  
N.14 TENNESSEE TECH  
N.21 APPALACHIAN STATE\*

### WOFFORD SPARTANBURG, S.C. (3-7)

S.12 THE CITADEL\*  
S.19 GEORGIA SOUTHERN  
S.26 CHARLESTON SO.\*  
O. 3 CHATTANOOGA\*  
O.10 VMI  
O.17 WESTERN CAROLINA\*  
O.24 APPALACHIAN STATE  
O.31 LEHIGH  
N. 7 E. TENNESSEE ST.  
N.14 FURMAN\*  
N.21 MARSHALL

### \*SOUTHLAND BUCKSONVILLE STATE JACKSONVILLE, ALA. (1-10)

S.12 GEORGIA SOUTHERN  
S.19 MIDDLE TENNESSEE\*  
S.26 NICHOLLS STATE  
O. 3 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN\*  
O.10 MCNEESE STATE  
O.17 SAMFORD\*  
O.24 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
N. 7 NORTHWESTERN ST.\*  
N.14 SW TEXAS STATE  
N.21 TROY STATE\*

### MCNEESE STATE LAKE CHARLES, LA. (11-1)

S. 5 SE OKLAHOMA\*  
S.12 NORTHERN IOWA  
S.19 SOUTHERN UTAH  
S.26 ARK. MONTICELLO\*  
O.10 JACKSONVILLE STATE\*  
O.17 NORTHWESTERN ST.\*  
O.24 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN\*  
O.31 SAM HOUSTON STATE  
N. 7 SW TEXAS STATE\*  
N.14 TROY STATE  
N.21 NICHOLLS STATE\*

### NICHOLLS STATE THIBODAUX, LA. (11-1)

S. 5 NE LOUISIANA  
S.12 MISS. VALLEY STATE\*  
S.19 JACKSONVILLE STATE\*  
O. 3 SAMFORD  
O.10 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
O.17 SW TEXAS STATE  
O.24 NORTHWESTERN ST.\*  
O.31 LOUISIANA TECH  
N. 7 TROY STATE  
N.14 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN\*  
N.21 MCNEESE STATE

### NORTHWESTERN STATE NATCHITOCHES, LA. (8-4)

S. 5 SOUTHERN\*  
S.12 SOUTHERN MISS  
S.19 HENDERSON STATE\*  
O. 3 MISSOURI  
O.10 SW TEXAS STATE  
O.17 MCNEESE STATE\*  
O.24 NICHOLLS STATE  
O.31 TROY STATE\*  
N. 7 JACKSONVILLE STATE  
N.14 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
N.21 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN

### SAM HOUSTON STATE HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS (5-6)

S. 5 ANGELO STATE  
S.12 CHADRON STATE\*  
S.19 TEX. A&M-KINGVILLE\*  
S.26 UTAH STATE  
O. 3 TROY STATE\*  
O.10 NICHOLLS STATE  
O.24 JACKSONVILLE STATE  
O.31 MCNEESE STATE\*  
N. 7 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN  
N.14 NORTHWESTERN ST.\*  
N.21 SW TEXAS STATE\*

### STEPHEN F. AUSTIN NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS (8-3)

S. 5 MONTANA\*  
S.12 TARTLETON STATE\*  
S.19 NE LOUISIANA  
S.26 NORTHERN IOWA\*  
O. 3 JACKSONVILLE STATE  
O.17 TROY STATE\*  
O.24 MCNEESE STATE  
O.31 SW TEXAS STATE  
N. 7 SAM HOUSTON STATE\*  
N.14 NICHOLLS STATE  
N.21 NORTHWESTERN ST.\*

### SW TEXAS STATE SAN MARCOS, TEXAS (5-6)

S. 5 DELTA STATE\*  
S.12 NORTHERN ARIZONA  
S.19 HOFSTRA\*  
O. 3 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS  
O.10 NORTHWESTERN ST.\*  
O.17 NICHOLLS STATE\*  
O.24 TROY STATE\*  
O.31 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN\*  
N. 7 MCNEESE STATE  
N.14 JACKSONVILLE STATE\*  
N.21 SAM HOUSTON STATE

### TROY STATE TROY, ALA. (5-6)

S. 5 ALABAMA STATE\*  
S.12 MARSHALL  
S.19 CHATTANOOGA  
S.26 SAMFORD\*  
O. 3 SAM HOUSTON STATE  
O.17 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN  
O.24 SW TEXAS STATE\*  
O.31 NORTHWESTERN ST.  
N. 7 NICHOLLS STATE\*  
N.14 MCNEESE STATE\*  
N.21 JACKSONVILLE STATE

### \*SWAC ALABAMA STATE MONTGOMERY, ALA. (3-8)

S. 5 TROY STATE  
S.12 TEXAS SOUTHERN\*  
S.19 ALABAMA STATE\*  
S.26 SOUTHERN  
O. 3 ARK. PINE BLUFF\*  
O.10 JACKSON STATE  
O.17 PRAIRIE VIEW A&M  
O.31 ALABAMA A&M  
N. 7 GRAMBLING  
N.14 MISS. VALLEY STATE\*  
N.26 TUSKEGEE\*

### ALCORN STATE LORMAN, MISS. (4-7)

S. 5 GRAMBLING  
S.19 ALABAMA STATE\*  
S.26 ARK. PINE BLUFF\*  
O. 3 MOREHOUSE  
O.10 PRAIRIE VIEW A&M  
O.17 TEXAS SOUTHERN\*  
O.24 SOUTHERN\*  
N. 7 MISS. VALLEY STATE  
N.14 ALABAMA A&M  
N.21 JACKSON STATE

### ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF PINE BLUFF, ARK. (8-3)

S. 5 MISS. VALLEY STATE  
S.12 SOUTHERN\*  
S.19 HOWARD  
S.26 ALCORN STATE  
O. 3 ALABAMA STATE  
O.10 TEXAS SOUTHERN  
O.17 GRAMBLING\*  
O.24 LANGSTON  
O.31 JACKSON STATE\*  
N. 7 PRAIRIE VIEW A&M\*  
N.21 ALABAMA A&M\*  
@LITTLE ROCK, ARK.  
@ST. LOUIS, MO.  
@SHREVEPORT, LA.

### GRAMBLING GRAMBLING, LA. (3-8)

S. 5 ALCORN STATE\*  
S.12 ALABAMA A&M  
S.26 HAMPTON\*  
O. 3 PRAIRIE VIEW A&M\*  
O.10 MISSISSIPPI VALLEY  
O.17 ARK. PINE BLUFF\*  
O.24 JACKSON STATE\*  
O.31 TEXAS SOUTHERN  
N. 7 ALABAMA STATE\*  
N.14 WINSTON-SALEM ST.  
N.28 SOUTHERN  
@EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.  
@DALLAS, TEXAS  
@SHREVEPORT, LA.

### JACKSON STATE JACKSON, MISS. (9-3)

S. 5 HOWARD  
S.12 TENNESSEE STATE @  
S.19 FLORIDA A&M\*  
S.26 MISS. VALLEY STATE\*  
O. 3 TEXAS SOUTHERN\*  
O.10 ALABAMA STATE  
O.17 SOUTHERN  
O.24 GRAMBLING  
O.31 ARK. PINE BLUFF\*  
N.14 PRAIRIE VIEW A&M\*  
N.21 ALCORN STATE\*  
@MEMPHIS, TENN.  
@LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

### MISS. VALLEY STATE ITTA BENA, MISS. (4-6)

S. 5 ARK. PINE BLUFF\*  
S.12 NICHOLLS STATE  
S.19 ALABAMA A&M  
S.26 JACKSON STATE  
O. 3 SOUTHERN  
O.10 GRAMBLING\*  
O.17 ALBANY STATE\*  
O.24 TEXAS SOUTHERN  
O.31 PRAIRIE VIEW A&M\*  
N. 7 ALCORN STATE\*  
N.14 ALABAMA STATE

### PRAIRIE VIEW A&M PRAIRIE VIEW, TEXAS (0-9)

S. 5 TEXAS SOUTHERN  
S.12 HOWARD PAYNE  
S.19 SOUTHERN  
S.26 LANGSTON  
O. 3 GRAMBLING\*  
O.10 ALCORN STATE\*  
O.17 ALABAMA STATE\*  
O.24 PANHANDLE STATE  
O.31 MISS. VALLEY STATE  
N. 7 ARK. PINE BLUFF  
N.14 JACKSON STATE  
@DALLAS, TEXAS

### SOUTHERN BATON ROUGE, LA. (10-1)

S. 5 NORTHWESTERN STATE  
S.12 ARK. PINE BLUFF\*  
S.19 PRAIRIE VIEW  
S.26 ALABAMA STATE\*  
O. 3 MISS. VALLEY STATE\*  
O.10 ALABAMA A&M  
O.17 JACKSON STATE\*  
O.24 ALCORN STATE\*  
N.14 TEXAS SOUTHERN\*  
N.28 GRAMBLING\*  
@LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

### TEXAS SOUTHERN HOUSTON, TEXAS (5-6)

S. 5 PRAIRIE VIEW A&M\*  
S.12 ALABAMA STATE  
S.19 BETHUNE COOKMAN  
O. 3 JACKSON STATE  
O.10 ARK. PINE BLUFF\*  
O.17 ALCORN STATE\*  
O.24 MISS. VALLEY STATE\*  
O.31 GRAMBLING\*  
N.14 SOUTHERN  
N.21 TENNESSEE STATE

### \*AA INDEPENDENTS AUSTIN PEAY CLARKSVILLE, TENN. (0-10)

A.28 CAMPELLESVILLE\*  
S. 3 MOREHEAD STATE\*  
S.12 SAMFORD  
S.19 DAYTON\*  
S.26 WESTERN KENTUCKY  
O. 3 JACKSONVILLE  
O.17 CHARLESTON SO.\*  
O.31 CUMBERLAND  
N. 7 TUSCULUM\*  
N.14 GEORGETOWN  
N.21 VALPARAISO

### BUFFALO BUFFALO, N.Y. (2-9)

S. 5 MAINE  
S.12 LOCK HAVEN\*  
S.19 LAFAYETTE  
S.19 MASSACHUSETTS  
S.26 CORNELL  
O. 3 MORGAN STATE\*  
O.10 CANISUS\*  
O.17 LIBERTY  
O.31 WESTERN ILLINOIS\*  
N.14 VILLANOVA  
N.21 HOFSTRA

### CAL POLY-SLO SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIF. (10-1)

S. 5 NORTHERN ARIZONA\*  
S.12 CAL ST. SACRAMENTO  
S.19 MONTANA  
S.26 ST. MARY'S\*  
O. 3 UCDAVIS\*  
O.17 NORTHERN IOWA  
O.24 W. NEW MEXICO\*  
O.31 PORTLAND STATE  
O.31 SOUTHERN UTAH  
N.14 NEVADA  
N.21 LIBERTY\*

### CHARLESTON SOUTHERN CHARLESTON, S.C. (1-9)

S. 5 SOUTH CAROLINA ST.\*  
S.12 PRESBYTERIAN  
S.19 NORTH GREENVILLE\*  
S.26 WOFFORD  
O. 3 LIBERTY  
O.10 NEWBERRY\*  
O.17 AUSTIN PEAY  
O.31 SOUTH FLORIDA\*  
N. 7 MOREHEAD STATE\*  
N.14 BETHUN\*  
N.21 E. TENNESSEE ST.

### HOFSTRA HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. (9-3)

S. 5 DELAWARE STATE\*  
S.12 JAMES MADISON  
S.19 SW TEXAS STATE  
O. 3 MASSACHUSETTS\*  
O.10 CONNECTICUT  
O.17 RHODE ISLAND\*  
O.24 SOUTH FLORIDA\*  
O.31 THE CITADEL  
N. 7 NEW HAMPSHIRE\*  
N.14 LIBERTY\*  
N.21 BUFFALO\*

### LIBERTY LYNCHBURG, VA. (9-2)

S. 5 APPALACHIAN STATE  
S.19 SOUTH FLORIDA\*  
S.26 GLENVILLE STATE\*  
O. 3 CHARLESTON SO.\*  
O.10 HAMPTON  
O.17 DELAWARE STATE  
O.24 BUFFALO\*  
O.31 ELON  
N. 7 NORFOLK STATE\*  
N.14 HOFSTRA  
N.21 CAL POLY-SLO

### MOREHEAD STATE MOREHEAD, KY. (7-3)

S. 3 AUSTIN PEAY  
S.12 BUTLER\*  
S.19 VALPARAISO  
S.26 DAYTON  
O. 3 ELON\*  
O.17 THOMAS MORE\*  
O.24 VMI  
O.31 ROBERT MORRIS\*  
N. 7 CHARLESTON SO.  
N.21 SOUTH FLORIDA

### SAMFORD BIRMINGHAM, ALA. (7-4)

S. 5 CHATTANOOGA  
S.12 AUSTIN PEAY\*  
S.19 FURMAN  
S.26 TROY STATE  
O. 3 NICHOLLS STATE\*  
O.10 TENNESSEE-MARTIN\*  
O.17 JACKSONVILLE STATE  
O.31 MARS HILL\*  
N. 7 MORGAN STATE\*  
N.14 ELON  
N.21 TENNESSEE TECH

### SOUTH FLORIDA TAMPA, FLA. (5-6)

S. 5 SLIPPERY ROCK\*  
S.12 VALPARAISO\*  
S.19 LIBERTY  
O. 3 THE CITADEL\*  
O.10 ELON\*  
O.17 WESTERN KENTUCKY\*  
O.24 HOFSTRA  
O.31 CHARLESTON SO.  
N. 7 CUMBERLAND\*  
N.14 GEORGIA SOUTHERN  
N.21 MOREHEAD STATE\*

### SOUTHERN UTAH CEDAR CITY, UTAH (5-6)

S.12 MONTANA  
S.19 MCNEESE STATE\*  
S.26 WESTERN ILLINOIS  
O. 3 CAL ST. NORTH RIDGE  
O.10 ST. MARY'S\*  
O.17 FORT LEWIS\*  
O.24 IDAHO STATE  
O.31 ILLINOIS STATE  
N. 7 CAL POLY-SLO\*  
N.14 UCDAVIS  
N.21 E. WASHINGTON\*

### ST. MARY'S MORAGA, CALIF. (4-6)

S. 5 CAL ST. SACRAMENTO\*  
S.12 BUCKNELL  
S.19 LEHIGH\*  
S.26 CAL POLY-SLO  
O. 3 COLUMBIA\*  
O.10 SOUTHERN UTAH  
O.24 UCDAVIS  
O.31 TOWSON  
N. 7 DRAKE\*  
N.14 CHAPMAN\*

### WESTERN KENTUCKY BOWLING GREEN, KY. (10-1)

S. 3 TENNESSEE-MARTIN\*  
S.12 MURRAY STATE  
S.19 EASTERN KENTUCKY\*  
S.26 AUSTIN PEAY\*  
O.17 SOUTH FLORIDA  
O.24 ELON\*  
O.31 LOUISVILLE  
N. 7 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS\*  
N.14 INDIANA STATE\*

### INCOMPLETE SCHEDULES: Dayton, SW Louisiana and Western Kentucky were still organizing schedules at press time



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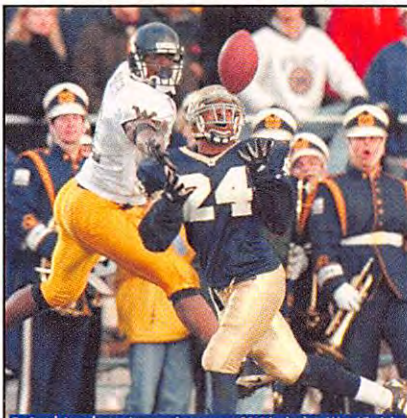
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Irish overcome Zereoue; ND one step from post-season play



Ty Goode's end-zone interception secures 21-14 win over West Virginia

#### INSIDE

IRISH STARE INTO  
ABYSS AND COME  
OUT WINNERS

MATTISON'S POSITIVE  
APPROACH PAYS  
DIVIDENDS ON  
DEFENSE

HOWARD LETS HIS  
ACTIONS DO  
THE TALKING

PINKETT ADJUSTS  
COMFORTABLY TO  
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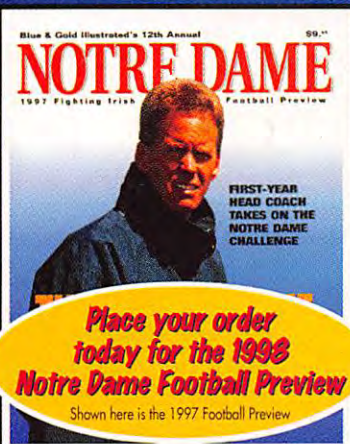
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— Harry Caray, former Chicago Cubs announcer

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Corey Joyner

Georgia Southern

# Montana, Georgia Southern Lead Chase for Division I-AA Title

by RICK BAILEY  
*Lexington Herald-Leader*

## Atlantic 10

Villanova (12-1) had the Walter Payton Award winner in wide receiver Brian Finneran, the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year in Andy Talley and the No. 1 playoff seed. Junior quarterback Chris Boden (3,079 yards, 36 TD passes) is a candidate for Payton honors as Talley and the Wildcats try to defend their Atlantic 10 title.

Delaware (12-2) was a playoff semifinalist and returns quarterbacks Brian Ginn, a junior, and Matt Negy, a sophomore. Senior wide receiver Eddie Conti hopes to return after missing last year with a knee injury. Coach Harold "Tubby" Raymond loses three linebackers, but he expects the Fightin' Blue Hens to be solid on defense.

William & Mary (7-4) is likely to be the third playoff contender from the A-10.

## Big Sky

Montana (8-4) had to replace 10 starters on defense last year, and senior quarterback Brian Ah Yat suffered a knee injury in the first quarter of the first game. "Most of our starters are back on offense," coach Mick Dennehy says, "but we'll be young on the defensive side."

Playoff semifinalist Eastern Washington (12-2) lost several top players. Weber State (6-5) has a new coach in former EWU defensive coordinator Jerry Graybeal, who inherits a senior-dominated team.

## Mid-Eastern

The MEAC sent two teams to the playoffs in Hampton (10-2) and Florida A&M (9-3) while South Carolina State (9-3) went to the Heritage Bowl. Coach Joe Taylor's Hampton Pirates may repeat as league champions.

"We've got to find a way to get past the first round," Taylor says about the MEAC's early departure. Hampton will try to return with four defensive standouts — senior end Charles Preston, linebackers David Turner and Deon Hunt and junior cornerback Donald Turner.

Howard (7-4) has the MEAC's best

returning quarterback in senior Ted White. Florida A&M must replace All-American quarterback Oteman Sampson.

## Ohio Valley

Defending champ Eastern Kentucky (8-4) must replace quarterback Simon Fuentes and several standouts on defense. Running backs Corey Crume and Derick Logan return along with fleet receiver Ron-del Menendez. Sophomore Waylon Chapman and junior college transfer Chad Collins are seeking the quarterback job.

Murray State (7-4) missed the playoffs in coach Denver Johnson's first year. The Racers have Oklahoma transfer Justin Fuente to challenge Dan Loyd at quarterback.

## Patriot

Colgate has gone from 0-11 in 1995, to playing for the Patriot title and losing in '96, to beating previously undefeated Bucknell 48-14 on the last day of the '97 season for the crown and the conference's first automatic bid to the I-AA playoffs.

The Red Raiders (7-5) return several quality players, including junior quarterback Ryan Vena, the league's Player of the Year the last two years. Two-time all-conference wide receiver Corey Hill, a senior, is back along with junior tailback Ed Weiss, the Patriot's rookie of the year.

Junior tackle Neil Gomez is the top returnee on the defensive front. Two senior linebackers return in Jason Patterson and Eric Zaleski. Junior cornerback Brandon Tinson and junior safety Jesse Boyd head up the secondary.

## Southern

Defending conference champion Georgia Southern (10-3) returns nine offensive and seven defensive starters for coach Paul Johnson's second year.

Junior Greg Hill is the incumbent quarterback. Senior Corey Joyner is a returning All-SoCon slotback. Junior guard Mark Williams won the league's Jacobs Blocking Trophy, and junior tackle Rich McGrath is

Just when the Marshall dynasty ended in NCAA Division I-AA football, look who emerged to reclaim the throne — Youngstown State.

The early '90s belonged to Youngstown, with three national titles (1991, '93, '94) and a runner-up finish ('92). But two years away from the playoffs left the Penguins highly motivated to make a title run in their first year in the Gateway Conference.

This fall, Tressel must replace 17 seniors, including quarterback Demond Tidwell and Gateway Defensive Player of the Year and All-American Harry Deligianis. Senior Jake Andreadis and junior Adrian Brown combined for 2,011 rushing yards counting the playoffs last year and will lead the Penguins' running game. Junior Jared Zwick and redshirt freshman Jim Keagy will seek the quarterback job.

Senior linebackers Mike Stanec and Jarritt Goode will return to head up the defense from last year's 13-2 team.

Western Illinois (11-2) won the Gateway outright by defeating Youngstown in the regular-season finale. The Leathernecks return All-America senior tailback Aaron Stecker, who rushed for 1,957 yards and 24 touchdowns in the regular season. Junior Mark Zanders is the heir apparent at quarterback. Senior tackle Casey Honkomp anchors the offensive line, while senior end Dave Watson, and senior linebackers Ty Locatelli and James Milton also excel.



## Division I-AA Top 20

1. Montana
2. Georgia Southern
3. McNeese State
4. Delaware
5. Western Kentucky
6. Villanova
7. Western Illinois
8. Murray State
9. Southern
10. Youngstown State
11. Northwestern (La.) State
12. East Tennessee State
13. Hampton
14. William & Mary
15. Jackson State
16. Florida A&M
17. Appalachian State
18. Weber State
19. Eastern Kentucky
20. Colgate

an All-SoCon lineman. All-SoCon defenders Eric Davis at end and Vonceil Allen at tackle anchor the front line. Sophomore James Dickerson earned All-America mention at free safety last year.

Quarterback Todd Wells, the conference Freshman of the Year, will keep East Tennessee State (7-4) in the title hunt. He was eighth in I-AA passing efficiency and led the league in total offense (2,763 yards).

Junior tailback Brandon Walker was the '97 preseason Player of the Year pick and made the all-league team along with senior fullback Brian Edwards. Senior tackle Sam Haynie heads the Buccaneers' offensive front. Junior linebacker Terrie Robbins returns as the Bucs' top defender.

## Southland

McNeese State (13-2) barely missed out on the national title, and coach Bobby Keasler's Cowboys hope to return to the playoffs with an offense led by junior quarterback Blake Prejean and All-America senior tackle Reggie Nelson. Senior linebacker Charles Ayro returns as the Southland's top defensive player. "I like the speed and strength of our defense," Keasler says.

Northwestern (La.) State, which shared the Southland title with McNeese, hopes to contend again. The Demons (8-4) are solid on defense. Senior linebacker LaDann Thomas returns along with junior Jake Michel. The defensive front is intact, and

senior cornerback Jermaine Jones was first-team All-Southland.

Troy State (5-6), a perennial playoff team since moving to I-AA, struggled offensively and lost several close games. Coach Larry Blakeney figures to have the Trojans back in the first division.

## Southwestern

Southern (10-1) returns junior quarterback Marcus Jacoby, a two-year starter who impresses coach Pete Richardson with his decision making and direction of the Jaguars' offense. "We're a running team, but Marcus also can throw," Richardson says. "The players have confidence in him."

Senior Steve Wofford returns at tailback after gaining 1,274 yards last season. Senior tackle Chris Williams anchors the offensive line. The defensive line returns, led by end Joe Williams and tackle Chris White, both seniors. The linebacking corps is young.

Jackson State (9-3) will be the SWAC's main playoff contender because Southern plays Grambling in the traditional Bayou Classic on the first Saturday of the playoffs.

## Independents

Western Kentucky (10-2) hopes to continue the building process that took it to the playoffs for the first time since 1988. The Hilltoppers return 13 starters including their foundation, senior quarterback Willie Taggart. "Willie is 175 pounds and carries the ball 20 to 25 times a game, so he's very durable in running our (I-bone) offense," coach Jack Harbaugh says.

Hofstra (9-3) and Liberty (9-2) also will vie for playoff spots among the independents.

## Ivy

Giving up fewer than 12.3 points per game (the average Harvard allowed in last year's contests) would normally be difficult to attain. But that's exactly what the Harvard defense hopes to do this year.

Although it returns just five starters, the bad news for the rest of the Ivy League is the Crimson may be better this time around. A linebacking trio of juniors Mike Sands and Isaiah Kacyvenski and senior Scott Larke will anchor the defensive unit.

Junior Harvard quarterback Rich Linden, who already owns several school pass-

ing records, returns to strong-arm his squad down field.

Dartmouth returns a solid core of players who have a 25-4-1 record over the past three seasons. Everything is in place for the Big Green to make a run at an Ivy title this season, except a quarterback. Senior Mike Coffey is the leading candidate.

## Metro Atlantic

The newest of the bunch may just be the best. St. John's (8-3) which joined the MAAC last season, will rely heavily on the talents of senior quarterback Mark Levine. As a junior last season, the gunslinger powered the Red Storm with 1,577 passing yards and 11 scores. The Red Storm defense is led by a pair of senior linebackers, Rob Feise and Anthony Zito, who recorded 15 sacks last season.

Defense will also be a strong suit for Duquesne. The Dukes return four All-MAAC performers. Senior linebackers Matt Fisher and Jade Burleigh combined to stop opposing ball carriers 175 times last year. Duquesne loads up with five All-MAAC players on the offensive side of the ball as well.

Georgetown, '97 MAAC champ, hopes to replace talent with potential.

## Pioneer

Dayton took a hit last season from graduation, but the Flyers will be expected to rule the roost for the '98 campaign.

Since the league's inaugural season in 1993, coach Mike Kelly has turned his team into a fixture at the top.

Posing the most serious threat to the Flyers is San Diego and the arm of quarterback Mike Stadler. And although a middle-of-the-pack team, Drake may also have something to say about the league's outcome this year.

## Northeast

Robert Morris has won 17 games over the last two years, and the defending champs remain the favorites going into 1998 until a challenger proves that the Colonials can be beaten. Last year's runner-up, Monmouth, may once again provide the most formidable challenge, with Wagner, Central Connecticut and St. Francis striving for respectability.

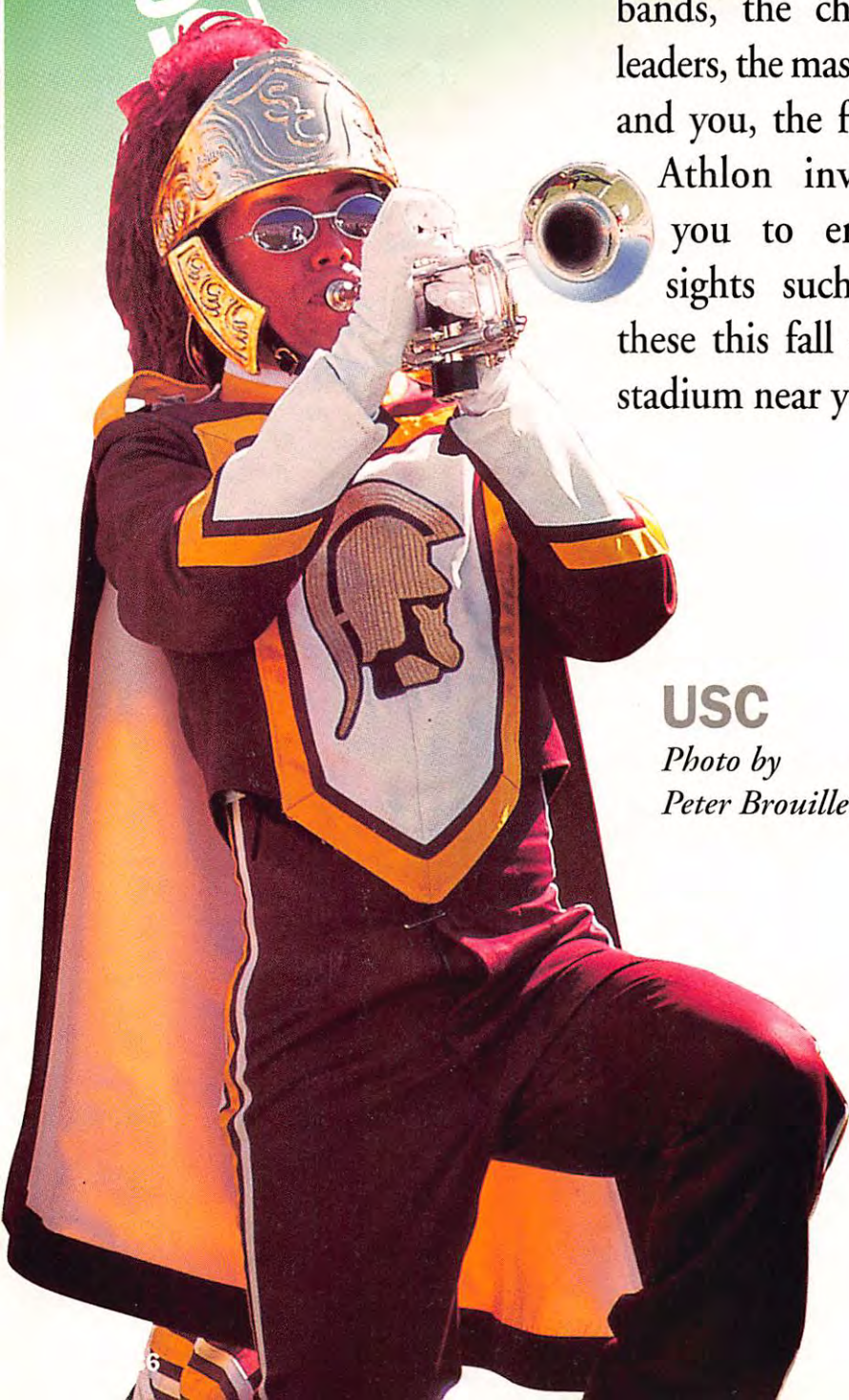


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**Iowa**

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## Wisconsin

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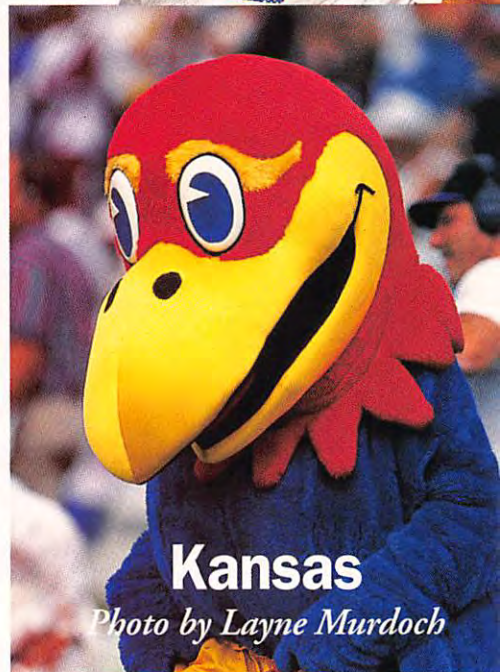
## Colorado State

*Photo by  
John Betancourt*



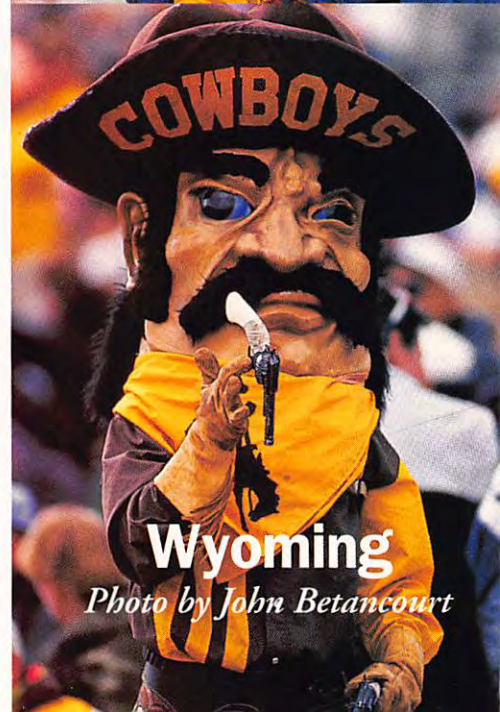
## Houston

*Photo by Courtland Richards*



## Kansas

*Photo by Layne Murdoch*



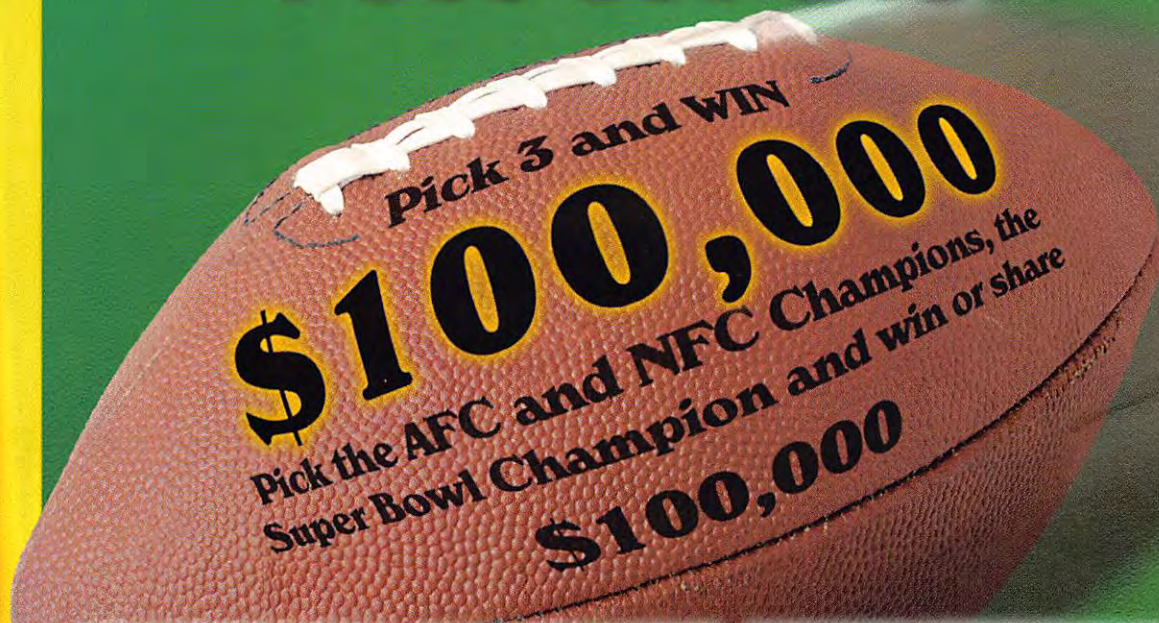
## Wyoming

*Photo by John Betancourt*



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Denver	2-1
Pittsburgh	7-2
New England	6-1
Jacksonville	3-1
Kansas City	5-1
N.Y. Jets	8-1
Buffalo	30-1
Miami	7-1
Indianapolis	35-1
Tennessee	22-1
Seattle	8-1
Cincinnati	22-1
Baltimore	30-1
Oakland	18-1
San Diego	30-1

Subject to Change

### To Win NFC Championship

Green Bay	8-5
San Francisco	3-1
Dallas	6-1
Minnesota	15-1
Tampa Bay	8-1
Philadelphia	25-1
N.Y. Giants	22-1
Atlanta	60-1
Carolina	25-1
Washington	8-1
Detroit	13-1
Arizona	60-1
St. Louis	60-1
Chicago	60-1
New Orleans	125-1

Subject to Change

### To Win 1999 Super Bowl XXXIII

Green Bay	3-1	Buffalo	80-1
San Francisco	6-1	Washington	15-1
Denver	5-1	Miami	15-1
Pittsburgh	8-1	Indianapolis	75-1
New England	15-1	Detroit	25-1
Dallas	12-1	Tennessee	50-1
Jacksonville	8-1	Seattle	20-1
Kansas City	12-1	Cincinnati	50-1
Minnesota	30-1	Baltimore	75-1
Tampa Bay	15-1	Arizona	100-1
N.Y. Jets	18-1	Oakland	35-1
Philadelphia	50-1	San Diego	75-1
N.Y. Giants	40-1	St. Louis	100-1
Atlanta	100-1	Chicago	100-1
Carolina	50-1	New Orleans	200-1

Subject to Change



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# the recruiting report

Compiled by Southeastern Recruiting Alliance

## Top 50 Classes of 1998

- |                   |                    |                       |                   |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Michigan       | 14. Southern Cal   | 27. Miami             | 40. Virginia      |
| 2. UCLA           | 15. Nebraska       | 28. Mississippi State | 41. N.C. State    |
| 3. Georgia        | 16. Michigan State | 29. Oklahoma State    | 42. California    |
| 4. Notre Dame     | 17. Virginia Tech  | 30. Pittsburgh        | 43. Iowa          |
| 5. Florida State  | 18. Colorado       | 31. Syracuse          | 44. Minnesota     |
| 6. Florida        | 19. Arizona State  | 32. Wisconsin         | 45. Northwestern  |
| 7. Alabama        | 20. Clemson        | 33. Kentucky          | 46. Auburn        |
| 8. North Carolina | 21. Oklahoma       | 34. Texas A&M         | 47. Southern Miss |
| 9. LSU            | 22. Stanford       | 35. Washington        | 48. Tulane        |
| 10. Tennessee     | 23. Missouri       | 36. Kansas State      | 49. Ole Miss      |
| 11. Texas         | 24. Arizona        | 37. Baylor            | 50. West Virginia |
| 12. Penn State    | 25. South Carolina | 38. Washington State  |                   |
| 13. Ohio State    | 26. Purdue         | 39. Oregon            |                   |

## National Top 100 Of 1998

Player	POS.	HGT.	WHT.	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY	Player	POS.	HGT.	WHT.	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
1. Matt Holliday	QB	6-5	210	Stillwater, OK	Oklahoma State	51. Earnest Graham	RB	5-10	210	Cape Coral, FL	Florida
2. Dennis Johnson	DL	6-7	256	Harrodsburg, KY	Kentucky	52. Patrick Hughes	TE	6-5	237	Nacogdoches, TX	Florida State
3. John Henderson	DL	6-7	280	Nashville, TN	Tennessee	53. Terin Smith	DL	6-4	221	Folkston, GA	Georgia
4. Justin Fargas	RB	6-1	185	Sherman Oaks, CA	Michigan	54. John Capel	WR	5-10	180	Brooksville, FL	Florida
5. Ronald Curry	QB	6-3	195	Hampton, VA	North Carolina	55. Lawson Giddings	WR	6-3	185	McAlester, OK	Oklahoma St.
6. Drew Henson	QB	6-4	215	Brighton, MI	Michigan	56. Cato June	DB	6-0	195	Washington, DC	Michigan
7. Shamar Finney	LB	6-3	245	Shelby, NC	Penn State	57. Sean Phillips	DL	6-5	260	Sugarland, TX	UCLA
8. Kindal Moorehead	DL	6-4	284	Memphis, TN	Alabama	58. Carlos Pierre-Antoine	LB	6-2	244	Seattle, WA	Notre Dame
9. Julius Peppers	ATH	6-7	240	Bailey, NC	North Carolina	59. Brad Smalling	OL	6-8	348	West Monroe, LA	LSU
10. David Givens	WR	6-0	210	Humble, TX	Notre Dame	60. Matt Leonard	OL	6-4	295	Aqua Dulce, CA	UCLA
11. Lovell Houston	DB	6-1	175	Denver, CO	UCLA	61. Chris Hope	DB	6-2	195	Rock Hill, SC	Florida State
12. Jason Thomas	QB	6-4	220	Carson, CA	Southern Cal	62. Willie Miles	DB	6-0	170	Fort Worth, TX	Tennessee
13. Montrell Flowers	WR	5-10	175	Dallas, TX	Texas	63. DeJuan Groce	DB	5-11	185	Cleveland, OH	Nebraska
14. Robert Thomas	LB	6-2	225	Imperial, CA	UCLA	64. Mike Clay	LB	6-3	255	Houston, TX	Missouri
15. Mike Pearson	OL	6-7	285	Seffner, FL	Florida	65. William Witherspoon	LB	6-2	215	Panama City, FL	Georgia
16. Jessie Miller	LB	6-2	225	Tennille, GA	Georgia	66. Conner Stephens	DL	6-5	235	Ackerman, MS	Mississippi St.
17. Marquise Walker	WR	6-3	205	Syracuse, NY	Michigan	67. Terrance Howard	RB	6-0	186	Willingboro, NJ	Notre Dame
18. Gus Felder	OL	6-5	295	Berwick, PA	Penn State	68. Javin Hunter	WR	6-1	175	Beverly Hills, MI	Notre Dame
19. David Terrill	WR	6-3	185	Richmond, VA	Michigan	69. Rodney Bailey	LB	6-4	220	Folkston, GA	Georgia
20. DeShaun Foster	RB	6-1	205	Tustin, CA	UCLA	70. Jashon Sykes	LB	6-3	220	Los Angeles, CA	Colorado
21. Rian Cason	DL	6-5	300	College Park, GA	Florida State	71. Julius Yeast	DE	6-5	280	Harrodsburg, KY	Ohio State
22. Tyler Watts	QB	6-3	205	Pelham, AL	Alabama	72. David Jacobs	DL	6-4	245	Atlanta, GA	Georgia
23. Jon Stinchcomb	OL	6-6	260	Liburn, GA	Georgia	73. Ken Kocher	DL	6-4	292	San Diego, CA	UCLA
24. Bryant Malloy	OL	6-2	300	Cherryville, NC	North Carolina	74. Larry Foote	LB	6-2	215	Detroit, MI	Michigan
25. Antwan Kirk-Hughes	OL	6-4	297	Waxahachie, TX	Texas	75. Chris Kelsay	LB	6-5	240	Auburn, NE	Nebraska
26. Tim Wansley	DB	5-10	175	Buford, GA	Georgia	76. Howard Clark	LB	6-2	205	Pennsauken, NJ	Miami
27. Mike Saffer	OL	6-5	290	Tucson, AZ	UCLA	77. Keith Stephens	OL	6-3	325	Columbus, GA	Georgia
28. Robert Gillespie	RB	5-10	180	Hattiesburg, MS	Florida	78. Jonathan Wells	RB	6-2	220	River Ridge, LA	Ohio State
29. Brett Williams	OL	6-6	320	Kissimmee, FL	Florida State	79. Jonathan Adams	RB	6-0	200	Osceola, AR	Arkansas State
30. Ben Johnson	OL	6-7	310	Brussels, WI	Wisconsin	80. Ryan Scarola	OL	6-5	320	Export, PA	Notre Dame
31. Ryan Pickett	DL	6-3	290	Zephyrhills, FL	Ohio State	81. Maurice McClain	DB	6-1	170	Elizabeth, NJ	Syracuse
32. Mike Rumph	DB	6-2	190	Delray Beach, FL	Miami	82. Eddie Strong	LB	6-3	235	Batesville, MS	Ole Miss
33. Ben Gay	RB	6-1	217	Spring, TX	Baylor	83. Trent Smith	TE	6-6	225	Clinton, OK	Oklahoma
34. Kenderick Allen	DL	6-6	300	Bogalusa, LA	LSU	84. Vance Smith	QB	6-5	225	Fort Worth, TX	Texas A&M
35. Ed Drummond	RB	5-11	175	Pittsburgh, PA	Penn State	85. Justin Smith	TE	6-5	230	Jefferson City, MO	Missouri
36. Mike Vick	QB	6-2	190	Newport News, VA	Virginia Tech	86. Will Overstreet	DL	6-4	250	Jackson, MS	Tennessee
37. Kenny Peterson	DL	6-4	255	Canton, OH	Ohio State	87. Chris Thigpen	TE	6-5	260	Winnboro, SC	South Carolina
38. Carson Palmer	QB	6-4	205	Laguna Niguel, CA	Southern Cal	88. Reggie Myles	DB	5-11	180	Pascagoula, MS	Alabama
39. R.J. Luke	TE	6-3	232	Aurora, IL	Penn State	89. Leo Mills	RB	6-2	215	Humble, TX	Arizona
40. Jared Jones	QB	6-5	220	Walla Walla, WA	Florida State	90. Jermaine Brooks	DL	6-3	265	Rancho Cucu., CA	Arkansas
41. Damien James	ATH	6-0	190	Lafayette, LA	LSU	91. Antoinette Harris	RB	6-1	205	Bolingbrook, IL	Illinois
42. Derek Ross	DB	6-1	190	Rock Hill, SC	Ohio State	92. Lee Jackson	DB	6-4	190	Longview, TX	Texas
43. Talman Gardner	WR	6-2	195	New Orleans, LA	Florida State	93. Aaron Kampman	LB	6-4	235	Kesley, IA	Iowa
44. Terrence Edwards	ATH	6-2	175	Tennille, GA	Georgia	94. Craig Albrecht	DL	6-5	290	St. Louis, MO	Northwestern
45. Arnaz Battle	QB	6-1	196	Shreveport, LA	Notre Dame	95. Arlen Harris	RB	5-11	190	Dowlington, PA	Virginia
46. Bernard Jackson	LB	6-4	245	Louisville, KY	Tennessee	96. Brandon Williams	RB	6-0	205	Arnold Valley, PA	Pittsburgh
47. Eric Rickenbach	OL	6-5	300	Sewell, NJ	Penn State	97. Bobby Blizzard	TE	6-6	230	Hampton, VA	Kentucky
48. David Jorgensen	OL	6-5	285	Hartford, CT	Florida	98. Jackie Robinson	WR	6-2	185	Orangeburg, SC	Clemson
49. Jake Houseright	LB	6-4	222	Gate City, VA	Virginia Tech	99. Victor Ike	RB	6-0	190	Austin, TX	Texas
50. Freddie Milons	ATH	5-11	177	Starkville, MS	Alabama	100. Steve Bellisari	ATH	6-3	210	Boca Raton, FL	Ohio State

### The Southeastern Recruiting Alliance — The Nation's Only Monthly Football Recruiting Magazine

The information in this report was provided by The Southeastern Recruiting Alliance. The Alliance offers 10 yearly issues, including detailed information on the nation's best players and their college preferences, plus a 1-900 hotline. For more information, call them at their toll free number, 1-888-822-4772, or write to them at: SRA, P.O. Box 1684, Irmo, SC 29063.



# CLASS OF 1999 REPORT

## BY POSITION (Listed Alphabetically 294 Players)

### Quarterbacks (27)

Matt Berry	QB	6-1	200	Seattle, WA	Eastlake
Brandon Browning	QB	6-2	185	Broosville, FL	Hernando
Zak Clark	QB	6-2	170	Fayetteville, AR	Fayetteville
Shawn Coleman	QB	6-4	212	Aurora, CO	Regis Jesuit
Carl Crawford	QB	6-2	190	Houston, TX	Davis
Ken Dorsey	QB	6-4	180	Orinda, CA	Miramonte
Brandon Everage	QB	6-1	180	Granger, TX	Granger
Kevin Fant	QB	6-2	190	Moss Point, MS	Moss Point
William Ferguson	QB	5-10	175	Pittsburgh, PA	Woodland Hills
Colby Freeman	QB	6-3	205	Brownwood, TX	Brownwood
Blake Hardin	QB	6-2	180	Springfield, IL	Rutherford
J.R. House	QB	6-2	205	Nitro, WV	Nitro
Benji Kamrath	QB	6-3	185	Maryville, WI	Maryville
Greg Kannapel	QB	6-5	210	Louisville, KY	Waggener
Chris Lewis	QB	6-2	200	Long Beach, CA	Poly
Jared Lorenzen	QB	6-4	240	Fort Thomas, KY	Highlands
Eli Manning	QB	6-4	180	New Orleans, LA	Newman
Ricky Manning	QB	5-10	180	Fresno, CA	Edison
Scott McMullen	QB	6-3	195	Granville, OH	Granville
Willie Poole	QB	6-0	175	New York, NY	Christ The King
Casey Printers	QB	6-3	185	DeSoto, TX	DeSoto
Ryan Schenider	QB	6-2	205	Plantation, FL	Plantation
Chris Simms	QB	6-5	200	Franklin Lakes, NJ	Ramapo
Chris Stephens	QB	6-3	205	Gainesville, FL	Buscholz
A.J. Suggs	QB	6-4	205	Powder Springs, GA	McEachern
Benjamin Walker	QB	6-4	215	Brentwood, TN	Brentwood Acad.
Fabien Walker	QB	6-1	185	Americus, GA	Americus

### Running Backs (55)

Paul Arnold	RB	6-1	200	Seattle, WA	Kennedy
Ed Baker	RB	5-9	180	Tallahassee, FL	Leon
Santonio Beard	RB	6-0	185	Nashville, TN	Pearl Cohn
Ryan Brewer	RB	5-10	190	Troy, OH	Troy
Art Brown	RB	5-10	190	Winston-Salem, NC	Mount Tabor
Ivory Brown	RB	6-0	220	Bastrop, LA	Bastrop
Deon Burnett	RB	6-0	195	Claremont, CA	Claremont
Atari Callen	RB	5-10	180	Concord, CA	De La Salle
Noah Campbell	RB	5-11	210	St. Louis, HI	St. Louis
Tyree Clowe	RB	5-11	170	Central Valley, WA	Central Valley
Cedric Cobbs	RB	6-1	215	Little Rock, AR	Fair
Daniel Davis	RB	5-10	205	Stafford, VA	Brooke Point
Jason Davis	RB	5-7	165	Miami, FL	Southridge
Josh Davis	RB	6-0	190	Loveland, CO	Loveland
Travis Felder	RB	5-7	175	Jacksonville, FL	White
Troy Fleming	RB	6-1	210	Franklin, TN	BGA
Brian Flores	RB	5-11	190	Brooklyn, NY	Country Day
Frank Garcia	RB	6-1	215	Miami, FL	Pace
Jason Geathers	RB	6-2	215	Boca Raton, FL	Spanish River
DeJuan Green	RB	6-1	195	Jacksonville, FL	Raines
Richard Hall	RB	5-11	190	Cincinnati, OH	Wyoming
LaPadre Hampton	RB	5-9	180	Madison Co., FL	Madison Co.
Maurice Harris	RB	5-10	180	Aldine, TX	Nimitz
Harvey Howard	RB	6-1	205	Carol City, FL	Carol City
Todd Howard	RB	5-11	200	Murfreesboro, TN	Riverdale
Raymond Hudson	RB	5-10	185	Holmes, FL	Holmes Co.
Jeremy Johnson	RB	6-0	270	Louisville, KY	Ballard
Terry Liggin	RB	5-8	160	Louisville, KY	Seneca
Kelton Lindsey	RB	6-1	180	Lebanon, OH	Lebanon
Nick Maddox	RB	5-11	195	Kannapolis, NC	A.L. Brown
Nate Meikle	RB	6-1	200	Hillcrest, ID	Hillcrest
Donta Murray	RB	5-11	235	Boca Raton, FL	Spanish River
Terrell Nelson	RB	5-9	170	Detroit, MI	Chadsey
Michael Owens	RB	6-0	205	Tuscumbia, AL	Deshler
Arnold Parker	RB	6-2	205	Las Vegas, NV	Cimarron
Bernard Rambert	RB	6-0	190	Summerville, SC	Summerville
Lamar Rembert	RB	5-9	185	Bellevue, FL	Bellevue
Taurean Rollins	RB	5-11	185	Raytown, MO	South
Justin Ruggio	RB	6-0	180	Providence, IL	Catholic
Fred Russell	RB	5-8	175	Romulus, MI	Romulus
O'Neal Sandiford	RB	6-1	205	Plantation, FL	Plantation
Terry Sheffield	RB	6-0	170	Morgantown, NC	Freedom
Onterio Smith	RB	5-11	180	Sacramento, CA	Grant
Fred Talley	RB	5-9	165	Longview, TX	Longview
Lee Thompson	RB	5-7	190	Liberty, MO	Liberty
Bruce Thornton	RB	5-11	170	LaGrange, GA	LaGrange

Pisa Tinoisamoa	RB	6-1	195	Vista, CA	Vista
Greg Toal	RB	5-11	190	Franklin Lakes, NJ	Ramapo
Labrandon Toefield	RB	6-1	205	Independence, LA	Independence
Marquis Walden	RB	5-8	185	Daytona Beach, FL	Mainland
Dontae Walker	RB	5-10	200	Clinton, MS	Clinton
Derek Watson	RB	6-1	200	Palmetto, SC	Palmetto
Joe Webber	RB	6-2	210	San Bernadino, CA	Pacific
Shaud Williams	RB	5-8	175	Andrews, TX	Andrews
Scott Young	RB	5-9	175	Winnsboro, SC	Fairfield-Central
Chris Yura	RB	6-0	195	Morgantown, WV	Morgantown

### Wide Receivers (32)

Dee Andrews	WR	6-0	175	Tifton, GA	Tift Co.
Marcel Almond	WR	6-2	190	St. Paul, CA	St. Paul
Roy Baker	WR	6-3	185	Miami, FL	Northwestern
Kevin Beard	WR	6-1	190	Plantation, FL	Plantation
Dwight Boldin	WR	6-2	195	Belle Glade, FL	Belle Glade
Tyrece Butler	WR	6-5	205	Decatur, IN	Central
Almondo Curry	WR	5-9	160	Hampton, VA	Hampton
Reshod Durrant	WR	6-0	180	Gainesville, FL	Eastside
Artie Ellis	WR	6-3	190	Spring, TX	Westfield
Keon Frazier	WR	6-1	190	East Chicago, IN	Central
Don Gaffney, Jr	WR	6-4	200	Jacksonville, FL	Raines
Victor Glenn	WR	6-0	180	Daytona Beach, FL	Seabreeze
Damien Gray	WR	5-11	180	Athens, GA	Clarke Central
DeAndre Green	WR	6-2	185	Pritchard, AL	Blount
Maurice Harris	WR	6-3	195	Jacksonville, FL	Raines
Jack Holly	WR	6-2	195	Kansas City, KA	Schlagle
Keenan Howrey	WR	5-10	160	Los Alamitos, CA	Los Alamitos
Markee Jackson	WR	5-11	175	Perry, FL	Taylor Co.
Anthony Johnson	WR	6-4	190	Miami, FL	Senior
Kareem Kelly	WR	6-2	180	Long Beach, CA	Poly
Troy Mitchell	WR	6-0	165	Big Spring, TX	Big Spring
Jerry Owens	WR	6-3	180	Newhall, CA	Hart
Kunle Patrick	WR	6-2	205	Brooklyn, NY	Country Day
Derrick Potter	WR	6-2	180	Ocala, FL	Vanguard
Ricky Ricks	WR	6-2	185	Lancaster, SC	Lancaster
Lito Sheppard	WR	5-10	180	Jacksonville, FL	Raines
Michael Waddell	WR	5-11	170	Rockingham, NC	Richmond Co.
Antonio Wilkerson	WR	5-8	170	Ocala, FL	Vanguard
Derrick Woods	WR	5-10	175	Memphis, TN	Melrose
Yaacou Yisrael	WR	6-1	185	Palatine, IL	Palatine
J.P. Zeto	WR	6-2	175	Miami, FL	Ransom
Kevin Zurteki	WR	6-4	210	Dearborn, MI	Ford

### Tight Ends (18)

Anthony Aguilar	TE	6-4	270	Superior, AZ	Superior
Nathan Ball	TE	6-6	245	Rogers, AR	Rogers
Eric Edwards	TE	6-5	240	Monroe, LA	Quachita Christian
Michael Gaines	TE	6-3	245	Tallahassee, FL	Tallahassee
Casey Gilbert	TE	6-5	260	Pascagoula, MS	Pascagoula
Gary Godsey	TE	6-6	245	Tampa, FL	Jesuit
Andy Jarius	TE	6-5	225	Renton, WA	Liberty
Robert Johnson	TE	6-5	255	Montgomery, AL	Jefferson Davis
Lewis Moore	TE	6-2	240	Cape May, NJ	Middle Township
Hosa Palacio	TE	6-2	285	Thomasville, GA	Thomasville
Brent Pierce	TE	6-4	215	Vancouver, WA	Columbia River
Jason Radar	TE	6-5	220	St. Albans, WV	St. Albans
Bo Scaife	TE	6-4	220	Denver, CO	Mullen
Mike Siedman	TE	6-5	235	Westlake, CA	Westlake
Josh Shavies	TE	6-6	240	Oakland, CA	Fremont
Derek Smith	TE	6-6	235	Fort Thomas, KY	Highlands
Benji Watson	TE	6-4	225	Rock Hill, SC	Northwestern
Zac Yarbrough	TE	6-4	215	Winter Park, FL	Winter Park

### Offensive Line (47)

Josh Beckman	OL	6-3	260	Yucca Valley, CA	Yucca Valley
Leo Bell	OL	6-7	290	Cincinnati, OH	Moeller
Bryce Bishop	OL	6-4	290	Miami, FL	Killian
Kevin Breedlove	OL	6-5	295	Central, SC	Daniel
Chris Buda	OL	6-4	315	Tallahassee, FL	Lincoln
Vernon Cary	OL	6-6	310	Miami, FL	Northwestern
Adrien Clarke	OL	6-5	305	Cleveland, OH	Shaker Heights
Robbie Doane	OL	6-7	280	Coppell, TX	Coppell
Dante Ellington	OL	6-6	300	Leighton, AL	Colbert Co.
Alonzo Ephrim	OL	6-3	285	Birmingham, AL	Wenonah
Jeff Faine	OL	6-3	300	Seminole, FL	Sanford



# the recruiting report

Bryce Bishop	OL	6-4	290	Miami, FL	Killian
Kevin Breedlove	OL	6-5	295	Central, SC	Daniel
Chris Buda	OL	6-4	315	Tallahassee, FL	Lincoln
Vernon Cary	OL	6-6	310	Miami, FL	Northwestern
Adrien Clarke	OL	6-5	305	Cleveland, OH	Shaker Heights
Robbie Doane	OL	6-7	280	Coppell, TX	Coppell
Dante Ellington	OL	6-6	300	Leighton, AL	Colbert Co.
Alonzo Ephrim	OL	6-3	285	Birmingham, AL	Wenonah
Jeff Faine	OL	6-3	300	Seminole, FL	Sanford
John Glass	OL	6-5	300	Allentown, PA	Dier Ruf
Tyler Gray	OL	6-7	260	East Webster, MS	East Webster
Jon Hawk	OL	6-6	265	Denver, CO	Mullen
William Henry	OL	6-6	300	Greenville, SC	Greenville
Jamerio Hickman	OL	6-6	280	Alameda, CA	Encinal
Aaron Hodges	OL	6-5	275	Rich, IL	Rich Central
Alex Jackson	OL	6-4	310	Quincey, FL	Shanks
Alonzo Jackson	OL	6-4	240	Americus, GA	Americus
Nick Johnson	OL	6-8	280	Cottonwood, AZ	Mingus
Eric Kraus	OL	6-5	250	Bluefield, WV	Bluefield
Shane Lehmann	OL	6-5	260	Corona, CA	Corona
Brandon Macias	OL	6-6	315	Hacienda Hgts., CA	Los Altos
Matt Martinez	OL	6-3	275	Wenachee, WA	Wenachee
Trey Mathis	OL	6-3	305	Garland, TX	Garland
Don Mattix	OL	6-3	280	Lake Wales, FL	Lake Wales
DeMarco Monroe	OL	6-5	300	Evansville, IN	Central
Sean Owens	OL	6-3	270	Panama City, FL	Bay
Kyle Pederson	OL	6-4	270	Clemons, NC	Forsythe
Mark Pera	OL	6-6	295	Memphis, TN	MUS
Alfio Randle	OL	6-6	285	Houston, TX	Yates
Nate Reeves	OL	6-3	255	Irmo, SC	Dutch Fork
Renard Riley	OL	6-6	330	Los Alamitos, CA	Los Alamitos
Kawika Sagapolu	OL	6-4	280	Las Vegas, NV	Cimarron
Brian Sanders	OL	6-4	295	Mira Loma, CA	Jurupa Valley
Brian Schlop	OL	6-6	255	Wexford, PA	North Allegheny
Lincoln Smith	OL	6-8	295	Hollandale, MS	Simmons
Tony Tape	OL	6-7	290	Hinsdale, IL	South
Craig Terrill	OL	6-4	255	Lebanon, IN	Lebanon
Brock Tettleton	OL	6-5	285	St. Louis, MO	St. Louis
Donald Tucker	OL	6-5	295	Tupelo, MS	Tupelo
Lenny Vandermade	OL	6-3	260	Santa Ana, CA	Mater Dei
Tim Watts	OL	6-4	280	Asbury Park, NJ	Asbury Park
Tony Womack	OL	6-6	320	Arlington, VA	Yorktown
Jeffrey Womble	OL	6-5	280	Dunwoody, GA	Dunwoody

## Defensive Line (42)

Lamont Anderson	DL	6-4	260	Irving, TX	Nimitz
Tim Anderson	DL	6-4	270	Clyde, OH	Clyde
Robert Branch	DL	6-3	300	Tuscaloosa, AL	Central
Michael Braxton	DL	6-1	275	Folkston, GA	Charlton Co.
Chris Brooks	DL	6-3	280	Orlando, FL	Dr. Phillips
Corey Brown	DL	6-2	225	Jacksonville, FL	Raines
Paul Broussard	DL	6-4	280	LaPorte, TX	LaPorte
Antwaun Chance	DL	6-5	240	St. Petersburg, FL	Hollins
Jason Davis	DL	6-5	295	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Dillard
Darrell Dockett	DL	6-3	250	Burtonsville, MD	Point Branch
Rob Droege	DL	6-7	275	St. Louis, MO	Lindberg
Louis Gachelin	DL	6-2	255	Miami, FL	Jackson
John Garrison	DL	6-6	240	Blue Springs, MO	Blue Springs
Casey Gilbert	DL	6-5	260	Pascagoula, MS	Pascagoula
Albert Haynesworth	DL	6-4	250	Hartsville, SC	Hartsville
Ryan Haywood	DL	6-4	280	Denver, CO	Jefferson
Chris Hewitt	DL	6-6	240	Rome, GA	Rome
Jarrett Johnson	DL	6-5	265	Chiefland, FL	Chiefland
Justin Johnson	DL	6-5	270	Ripley, WV	Ripley
Damon Jones	DL	6-4	295	Philadelphia, PA	Central
Kenny King	DL	6-3	275	Daphne, AL	Daphne
Trahern LaFavor	DL	6-4	235	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Cardinal Gibbons
Larry McCall	DL	6-6	220	St. Petersburg, FL	Gibbs
Gary McNealy	DL	6-4	255	Perry, FL	Taylor Co.
Demarco McNeil	DL	6-2	285	Pritchard, AL	Blount
Greg Mills	DL	6-4	285	Tallahassee, FL	Lincoln
Clint Mitchell	DL	6-6	245	Clearwater, FL	Countryside
David Payne	DL	6-6	255	Memphis, TN	Meirose
Matt Penny	DL	6-4	270	Gilbert, AZ	Gilbert
Jim Peters	DL	6-4	245	Russellville, AR	Russellville
Cole Pittman	DL	6-5	260	Shreveport, LA	Evangel
Brian Poole	DL	6-3	235	Orlando, FL	Evans
Rex Richards	DL	6-3	195	Roswell, NM	Roswell
Charles Robinson	DL	6-5	220	Fairburn, GA	Creekside
Demetrius Solomon	DL	6-7	270	Flint, MI	Northern
Scott Wells	DL	6-3	275	Brentwood, TN	Brentwood Acad.
Jeremy Williams	DL	6-5	250	Spokane, WA	Ferris
Roy Williams	DL	6-3	275	Deland, FL	Deland
George Woods	DL	6-2	270	LaMirada, CA	LaMirada
Malcolm Woolridge	DL	6-3	290	Boca Raton, FL	Olympic Heights
Courtney Young	DL	6-5	285	Bartow, FL	Bartow
Walter Young	DL	6-4	285	Purvis, MS	Purvis

## Linebackers (41)

Soloman Bates	LB	6-3	225	Moreno Valley, CA	Canyon Springs
Colin Blackburn	LB	6-3	215	Tucson, AZ	Sabino
Jonathan Bradley	LB	6-2	225	Benton, AR	Benton
Chris Buie	LB	6-2	215	Brandon, FL	Brandon
Chris Burden	LB	6-2	220	Orlando, FL	Dr. Phillips
Darrell Campbell	LB	6-4	220	Thornwood, IL	Thornwood
Vince Cartaya	LB	6-2	215	Miami, FL	Jesuit
Corey Collier	LB	6-2	225	Miami, FL	Palmetto
T.J. Duckett	LB	6-3	245	Kalamazoo, MI	Norrix
Roger Echols	LB	6-3	230	Kissimmee, FL	Osceola
Tyrone Evans	LB	6-1	230	Stockton, CA	Lincoln
Reggie Everret	LB	6-3	210	Miami, FL	Southridge
Matt Farrior	LB	6-2	220	Ettrick, VA	Matoaca
Treverance Faulk	LB	6-4	220	Lafayette, LA	Carencro
Rodney Feaster	LB	6-1	220	Chester, SC	Chester
Antwan Fleming	LB	6-3	230	Plant City, FL	Plant City
Jason Frederick	LB	6-2	220	Houston, TX	Cypress Falls
Jannit Green	LB	6-4	225	Hampton, VA	Hampton
Obadiah Harris	LB	6-4	235	Chillicothe, OH	Chillicothe
Joe Henley	LB	6-3	225	Gainesville, FL	Gainesville
Elmer Holmes	LB	6-0	220	Manassas, VA	Osborn
John Hopkins	LB	6-3	225	Tampa, FL	King
Frantz Ilfrad	LB	6-3	215	Miami Beach, FL	Miami Beach
Tashambi Irving	LB	6-4	210	Dallas, TX	Lincoln
Kamau Jackson	LB	6-1	215	Atlanta, GA	Douglass
Robert Johnson	LB	6-2	220	Sparr, FL	N. Marion
Aaron Jones	LB	6-1	215	Tampa, FL	Catholic
Kevin Mitchell	LB	6-1	215	Santa Ana, CA	Mater Dei
Lamaricus McDonald	LB	6-1	198	Waco, TX	Waco
Mike Nattiel	LB	6-2	210	Newberry, FL	Newberry
Pat O'Neal	LB	6-4	220	Stow, OH	Walsh Jesuit
Dave Peterson	LB	6-2	230	Bristol, FL	Liberty Co.
Kendyll Pope	LB	6-2	210	Lake City, FL	Columbia
Shawn Price	LB	6-3	220	Haddon Heights, NJ	Haddon Heights
Corey Redding	LB	6-3	220	Houston, TX	North Shore
Marcus Reese	LB	6-2	205	San Jose, CA	Oak Grove
Rich Scanlon	LB	6-2	210	Oradell, NJ	Bergen Catholic
Joseph Siosele	LB	6-2	230	St. Louis, HI	St. Louis
J.D. Stanley	LB	6-3	220	Berwick, PA	Berwick
Justin Thomas	LB	6-3	210	Oklahoma City, OK	Star Spencer
Jerrell Weaver	LB	6-3	210	Miami, FL	Northwestern
Damien West	LB	6-1	210	Sugar Land, TX	Dulles

## Defensive Backs (33)

Jeremy Armstead	DB	6-3	205	Tulsa, OK	Central
Anquan Boldin	DB	6-1	195	Pahokee, FL	Pahokee
Stephen Copeland	DB	6-0	170	McNary, OR	McNary
Tamaka Counselor	DB	5-10	180	Clarksdale, MS	Clarksdale
Curtis Crosby	DB	5-11	175	Columbus, OH	Eastmoor
Chris Daniels	DB	6-3	190	Thomasville, GA	Thomas Co.
Domanick Davis	DB	5-10	190	Beaux, LA	Beaux Bridge
Daryl Dixon	DB	5-11	185	N. Smyrna Bch., FL	N. Smyrna Bch.
Mike Doss	DB	6-0	195	Canton, OH	McKinley
Nick Dugas	DB	6-1	180	Crowley, LA	Crowley
Marcus Ellerbe	DB	5-10	175	Rockingham, NC	Richmond Co.
Vince Faison	DB	6-0	185	Lyons, GA	Toombs Co.
Demetrius Hoofkin	DB	5-11	170	Kentwood, LA	Kentwood
Kareem Jefferson	DB	5-9	160	Bayonne, NJ	Marist
Darryl Kennedy	DB	6-2	200	Plainsfield, NJ	Plainsfield
Richard McNutt	DB	5-11	185	Park Forest, IL	Rich East
Tony Milton	DB	5-9	180	Tallahassee, FL	N. Florida Christian
Adam Niles	DB	6-2	180	New Castle, PA	Laurel
Bruce Penny	DB	5-10	180	Philadelphia, PA	Dougherty
Clinton Portis	DB	6-2	190	Gainesville, FL	Gainesville
Lawrence Ray	DB	5-8	160	Clovis, CA	Clovis
Darrell Rideaux	DB	5-8	280	Long Beach, CA	Long Beach Poly
Gerome Sapp	DB	6-1	200	Houston, TX	Lamar
Bryan Scott	DB	6-2	205	Buckingham, PA	CBE
Tavares Spilman	DB	6-1	175	Hollywood Hills, FL	Hollywood Hills
Justin Thomas	DB	6-1	185	Sunrise, FL	Piper
Andre Thurman	DB	6-0	175	Avondale, AZ	Westview
Tim Yann	DB	5-11	180	Sparr, FL	N. Marion
Marcus Waters	DB	6-4	215	Sarasota, FL	Booker
Quincey Wilson	DB	5-11	195	Weirton, WV	Weir
Dennis Wyrick	DB	6-0	200	LaPuente, CA	Bishop Amat

## Athletes (2)

Rod Rutherford	ATH	6-3	190	Pittsburgh, PA	Perry
Rex Grossman	ATH	6-2	180	Bloomington, IN	South



# the recruiting report

## C-USA TOP 20 PROSPECTS

NAME	POS	HGT	WGT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
Andre' Cannon	LB	6-2	220	Thomasville, NC	East Carolina
Derrick Nix	RB	6-1	208	Attalla, AL	Southern Miss
Derrick Joseph	QB	6-0	188	Harvey, LA	Tulane
Jimmy Holloway	LB	6-2	225	Eufaula, AL	Southern Miss
Torie Taulli	OL	6-2	250	Harvey, LA	Tulane
Christshawn Gilliam	RB	6-0	210	Lenior, NC	East Carolina
Chrys Bullock	OL	6-4	270	Destrehan, LA	Tulane
Roosevelt Brown	DL	6-3	275	Pensacola, FL	Southern Miss
Rod Joseph	OL	6-5	335	Rock Hill, SC	Cincinnati
Terrell Harris	WR	6-2	185	Marrero, LA	Tulane
Eric Riggins	RB	5-11	190	Brooksville, FL	Southern Miss
Derrick Harmon	RB	6-1	180	Memphis, TN	Memphis
Buck Miciotto	TE	6-4	240	Lafayette, LA	Southern Miss
Derrick Spencer	DL	6-3	250	Clinton, NC	East Carolina
Corey Yates	DB	5-10	175	Holly Springs, MS	Southern Miss
Phoenix Evans	DL	6-5	295	Kinston, NC	East Carolina
Rufus Williams	DL	6-6	250	Daytona Beach, FL	Houston
Reuben Dunbar	RB	5-11	175	Huber Heights, OH	Cincinnati
Arthur Gissendanner	LB	6-3	200	Bradenton, FL	Houston
Chip Mattingly	LB	6-2	225	Louisville, KY	Louisville

## WAC TOP 20 PROSPECTS

NAME	POS	HGT	WGT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
Marcus Mosley	LB	6-3	200	Dallas, TX	SMU
Steve Cutlip	QB	6-2	198	Arvada, CO	Colorado State
Kevin Gilbride	QB	6-2	180	Jacksonville, FL	BYU
Barry King	LB	6-2	237	Louisville, KY	UTEP
James Tillman	RB	6-1	190	Los Angeles, CA	Fresno State
Marcellus Armstrong	RB	5-8	175	Fresno, CA	Fresno State
Brady Barrick	OL	6-6	295	Amarillo, TX	TCU
Jonathan Pittman	WR	6-0	170	Lakewood, CA	BYU
Joe Haro	RB	6-0	195	Clifton, NJ	UNLV
Brad Hawkins	LB	6-3	220	Jenks, OK	Tulsa
Eric May	OL	6-6	320	Hemet, CA	New Mexico
Keith Meyer	OL	6-3	285	Bay City, TX	Rice
Josh Allen	DL	6-4	240	Escondido, CA	San Diego State
Brandon Neill	QB	6-3	190	Great Falls, MT	Wyoming
Mike Anderson	RB	6-2	220	San Jacinto, CA	Utah
Scott Fuller	LB	6-2	235	Mesa, AZ	Wyoming
Larry Brown	DL	6-2	285	Dallas, TX	Rice
Amon Arnold	DL	6-4	225	Los Angeles, CA	San Diego State
Herman White	LB	6-0	210	Denver, CO	Wyoming
Sean Butts	WR	6-3	185	Culver City, CA	Hawaii

## NOTRE DAME

The past two years, we don't think Notre Dame has recruited up to its standards. This class looks like it has drastically changed that trend. This is the best Fighting Irish class in the last few years. This class has good balance and gives the Irish immediate help at obvious weak spots. Both tailbacks were among the nation's most highly recruited athletes at the position. The offensive line is big and talented. The Irish inked only one defensive lineman, Anthony Weaver, but he is a good one. David Givens and Javin

Hunter give Notre Dame an excellent receiver class. Arnaz Battle is an even better athlete than Jarious Jackson, in our opinion. Battle is a multi-talented prospect that can beat you with his arm and feet. Ryan Scarola is perhaps the marquee name in this group of linemen. He is a huge figure that is up to Notre Dame's outstanding standards on the offensive line. Carlos Pierre-Antoine is perhaps the top linebacker in this class. Most coaches listed him as a 4.6 speedster at 240-plus pounds.

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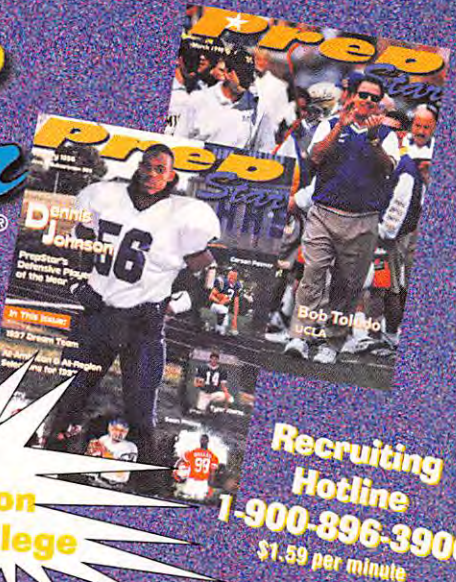
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# the recruiting report

## SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

### EAST DIVISION

1. **GEORGIA** The Bulldogs came away with the best class in the South and the school's best in recent memory. Jon Stinchcomb is one of the top offensive linemen in the country. Boss Bailey is the third in his set of brothers to ink with Georgia.

2. **FLORIDA** There is no faster player in the country than wide-out John Capel. He is the deep threat Spurrier was looking for.

3. **TENNESSEE** John Henderson is the marquee name.

4. **SOUTH CAROLINA** The Gamecocks signed another very big class in terms of numbers as South Carolina continues to rebuild its program.

5. **KENTUCKY** Three years ago it was Tim Couch who opted to stay home. This year it is Dennis Johnson.

6. **VANDERBILT** The Commodores needed more efficiency in their quarterback play and this class should shore up a lot of concerns in that area.

### WEST DIVISION

1. **ALABAMA** Alabama inked a very athletic class and certainly met its needs.

2. **LSU** In all, 13 linemen were inked in this class, including nine from the state.

3. **MISSISSIPPI STATE** The Bulldogs had a chance to get back on track with stronger classes like last year. They did. The MSU staff enjoyed an outstanding class in 1998.

4. **AUBURN** Auburn met its needs by signing tight ends, wide receivers, linebackers and running backs. If Auburn came up short in an area, it had to be at quarterback.

5. **OLE MISS** Ole Miss enjoyed its first bowl trip in recent years and headed into the recruiting season with momentum from a very good season that included some headline wins.

6. **ARKANSAS** It has been more difficult for the Hogs to find a recruiting base in the SEC and the natural rivalries have not come as easily.

## SEC TOP 25 PROSPECTS

NAME	POS	HGT	WGT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
Dennis Johnson	DL	6-7	256	Harrodsburg, KY	Kentucky
John Henderson	DL	6-7	280	Nashville, TN	Tennessee
Kindal Moorehead	DL	6-4	284	Memphis, TN	Alabama
Mike Pearson	OL	6-7	285	Seffner, FL	Florida
Jessie Miller	LB	6-2	225	Tennille, GA	Georgia
Tyler Watts	QB	6-3	205	Pelham, AL	Alabama
Jon Stinchcomb	OL	6-6	260	Lilburn, GA	Georgia
Tim Wansley	DB	5-10	175	Buford, GA	Georgia
Robert Gillespie	RB	5-10	180	Hattiesburg, MS	Florida
Kenderick Allen	DL	6-6	300	Bogalusa, LA	LSU
Damien James	ATH	6-0	190	Lafayette, LA	LSU
Terrence Edwards	ATH	6-2	175	Tennille, GA	Georgia
Bernard Jackson	LB	6-4	245	Louisville, KY	Tennessee
David Jorgensen	OL	6-5	285	Hartford, CT	Florida
Freddie Milons	ATH	5-11	177	Starkville, MS	Alabama
Earnest Graham	RB	5-10	210	Cape Coral, FL	Florida
Terin Smith	DL	6-4	221	Folkston, GA	Georgia
John Capel	WR	5-10	180	Brooksville, FL	Florida
Brad Smalling	OL	6-8	348	West Monroe, LA	LSU
Willie Miles	DB	6-0	175	Fort Worth, TX	Tennessee
William Witherspoon	LB	6-2	215	Panama City, FL	Georgia
Conner Stephens	DL	6-5	235	Ackerman, MS	Mississippi State
Boss Bailey	LB	6-4	220	Folkston, GA	Georgia
David Jacobs	DL	6-4	245	Atlanta, GA	Georgia
Keith Stephens	OL	6-3	325	Columbus, GA	Georgia

## ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

1. **FLORIDA STATE** Once again the Seminoles inked one of the nation's top recruiting classes. It's beginning to sound like a broken record, but the Seminoles recruit as well as anybody in the country, and their on-the-field record is indicative of that fact.

2. **NORTH CAROLINA** Once again, the Heels were able to keep most of the state's top prospects at home, which was a key because it was a wonderful year in North Carolina.

3. **CLEMSON** Clemson looks to build on last year's outstanding class of skill players with this class that included more offensive linemen and linebacker bodies. Head coach Tommy West said this is the best group of offensive linemen he has been around.

4. **VIRGINIA** Losing hurts more than winning feels good. For months, Virginia faithful had counted on having one of the best quarterbacks in recent years in their fold. Unfortunately, Ronald Curry chose to attend North Carolina weeks after signing day and six months after he committed to the Cavs. However, Virginia has built a very good program without top ranked recruiting classes.

5. **N.C. STATE** The Wolfpack met their needs by signing one of the South's top running back classes, a top notch tight end, an interior defensive lineman, a pass rushing defensive end and a large group of linebacker bodies with more speed.

6. **GEORGIA TECH** The Yellow Jackets were dealt the biggest blow when the Bulldogs were impressive on the field in 1997 and Georgia's recruiting went so well in 1998.

7. **MARYLAND** The glory days in College Park are a fading memory for many high school players today. Head coach Ron Vanderlinden and his staff have a slow building process ahead, but this class has a chance to help out very early.

8. **WAKE FOREST** This class should add athleticism and speed to the corps in Winston-Salem.

9. **DUKE** This Duke class has talent at the top. However, depth is not a strong point. The Blue Devils have placed more emphasis on recruiting and have increased the recruiting budget.

## ACC TOP 25 PROSPECTS

NAME	POS	HGT	WGT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
Ronald Curry	QB	6-3	195	Hampton, VA	North Carolina
Julius Peppers	ATH	6-7	240	Bailey, NC	North Carolina
Rian Cason	DL	6-5	300	College Park, GA	Florida State
Bryant Malloy	OL	6-2	300	Cherryville, NC	North Carolina
Brett Williams	OL	6-6	320	Kissimmee, FL	Florida State
Jared Jones	QB	6-5	220	Walla Walla, WA	Florida State
Talman Gardner	WR	6-2	195	New Orleans, LA	Florida State
Patrick Hughes	TE	6-5	237	Nacogdoches, TX	Florida State
Chris Hope	DB	6-2	195	Rock Hill, SC	Florida State
Arlen Harris	RB	5-11	190	Dowlington, PA	Virginia
Jackie Robinson	WR	6-2	185	Orangeburg, SC	Clemson
Brian Norwood	DL	6-5	270	Rockingham, NC	North Carolina
Kerry Watkins	WR	6-0	185	Laplace, LA	Georgia Tech
Pat Cyrgalis	RB	6-2	233	Kearny, NJ	Clemson
Warren Lott	LB	6-3	235	Warner Robbins, GA	Clemson
Brady Washburn	OL	6-5	280	Fayetteville, AR	Clemson
Robert Morgan	WR	6-0	180	East Point, GA	Florida State
Bosley Allen	WR	6-2	180	Bradenton, FL	North Carolina
Ryan Sims	DL	6-5	265	Spartanburg, SC	North Carolina
Jermaine Crenshaw	QB	6-3	190	Greenville, AL	Georgia Tech
Braxton Williams	LB	6-3	225	Greensboro, NC	Clemson
George Anderson	LB	6-2	225	LaPorte, TX	N.C. State
D Bryant	ATH	6-3	185	Detroit, MI	Duke
Marvious Hester	ATH	5-11	175	Decatur, GA	Georgia Tech
Marc Riley	RB	6-3	205	Coram, NY	Maryland



## PAC-10 CONFERENCE

1. **UCLA** The Bruins closed 1997 with 10 consecutive wins. They opened 1998 with one of the nation's top two recruiting classes. This is the kind of class that leads to national championships on the field.

2. **USC** Paul Hackett held together a very good class under adverse conditions after he took over for John Robinson. The Trojans have a very strong recruiting presence and the top of this class is a good indication of this.

3. **ARIZONA STATE** This is a very good class for the Sun Devils as they begin to see the dividends for a great year on the field two years ago. The skill players in this class are very good.

4. **STANFORD** This class is loaded with talented linemen. The Cardinal inked five very good offensive line prospects. This is another top-notch Stanford class.

5. **ARIZONA** The Cats inked one of the country's top running backs and a good group of linemen as well. Most close to the program feel this was a key class in terms of the future of the program.

6. **WASHINGTON** Washington headed south and brought back another extremely talented group from California once again this year.

7. **WASHINGTON STATE** The Cougars are coming off of an incredible season that ended with a Rose Bowl appearance. Unfortunately, the success of the season won't pay immediate dividends.

8. **OREGON** This is considered one of the stronger Oregon classes in recent years. The staff appears to have its recruiting base covered within the state and always recruits California well.

### 9. CALIFORNIA

This is Tom Holmoe's first true class at Cal and it is full of skill athletes. There are several key prospects in this group, but speed is the main ingredient in this class. The wide receiver class is special. Depth and quality abounds at the wide receiver position in Berkeley.

10. **OREGON STATE** Mike Riley continued to make recruiting in-roads with this group and many feel this is the best group of newcomers coming to Oregon State in recent years.

## PAC 10 TOP 25 PROSPECTS

NAME	POS	HGT	WGT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
Lovell Houston	DB	6-1	175	Denver, CO	UCLA
Jason Thomas	QB	6-4	220	Carson, CA	Southern Cal
Robert Thomas	LB	6-2	225	Imperial, CA	UCLA
DeShaun Foster	RB	6-1	205	Tustin, CA	UCLA
Mike Saffer	OL	6-5	290	Tucson, AZ	UCLA
Carson Palmer	QB	6-4	205	Laguna Niguel, CA	Southern Cal
Sean Phillips	DL	6-5	260	Sugarland, TX	UCLA
Ken Kocher	DL	6-4	292	San Diego, CA	UCLA
Leo Mills	RB	6-2	215	Humble, TX	Arizona
Anthony Kelley	LB	6-2	215	Altadena, CA	Washington
Corey Paus	QB	6-2	205	New Lenox, IL	UCLA
Mike Belisle	OL	6-5	322	Coos Bay, OR	Oregon
Michael Ainsworth	WR	6-1	180	Monrovia, CA	California
Mike Kuykendall	OL	6-6	305	Bend, OR	Oregon State
Scott Wiegand	OL	6-7	270	Arcadia, CA	UCLA
Ryan McCann	QB	6-4	200	Agoura, CA	UCLA
Sultan McCullough	RB	5-11	175	Pasadena, CA	Southern Cal
Kyran Jones	RB	6-1	175	Peoria, AZ	Arizona State
Matt Leonard	DL	6-4	290	Agua Dulce, CA	Stanford
Geoff Shelton	DE	6-4	230	San Diego, CA	Washington
Eric Heitmann	OL	6-5	285	Katy, TX	Stanford
Rusty Williams	DL	6-4	232	Vista, CA	UCLA
Joe Hunter	DB	5-11	170	Vacaville, CA	UCLA
Andre Gayles	WR	6-1	175	Renton, WA	Arizona

## BIG 10 CONFERENCE

1. **MICHIGAN** National Championships on the field are the best catalyst for outstanding recruiting classes. The Wolverines had one of the best recruiting classes in the past decade with this incredible group, in which All-Americans abound.

2. **PENN STATE** Joe Paterno has been a mainstay in national recruiting in recent years and this class fits right in line.

3. **OHIO STATE** The Buckeyes were limited to 14 scholarships, so the expectations for a nationally-rated class were fairly low. No one signed a better class with such limited numbers.

4. **MICHIGAN STATE** With all of the national attention going to in-state rival Michigan, no one noticed that Michigan State put together a very solid class. The Spartans signed a well-balanced group and once again came away with some special talent.

5. **PURDUE** When you put a winner on the field, recruits are more impressed with your program. It leads to excitement among your potential recruits. This explains Purdue's very successful class.

6. **WISCONSIN** Barry Alvarez continues to build the Badger program and this class goes a step even further in that process. Wisconsin is known for being very physical, but speed and athleticism among the skill players is a welcome addition that this class brings.

7. **IOWA** The Hawkeyes had a very good year on the field in 1997 and recruits took notice. Iowa traditionally recruits the Midwest and New Jersey very hard and this year was no different.

8. **MINNESOTA** Glen Mason needs more bodies in Minnesota. This class is a big one and gives the Gophers help across the board.

9. **NORTHWESTERN** The Wildcats have a national presence now following a couple of successful seasons under Gary Barnett, and their recruiting showcases that fact.

10. **ILLINOIS** Teams that go 0-11 can sell recruits on one thing: playing time. This Illini staff hit the road hard for new answers and Ron Turner is very pleased with his newcomers.

11. **INDIANA** It is difficult for a football program in a basketball state to rebuild a program.

## BIG TEN TOP 25 PROSPECTS

NAME	POS	HGT	WGT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
Justin Fargas	RB	6-1	185	Sherman Oaks, CA	Michigan
Drew Henson	QB	6-4	215	Brighton, MI	Michigan
Shamar Finney	LB	6-3	245	Shelby, NC	Penn State
Marquise Walker	WR	6-3	205	Syracuse, NY	Michigan
Gus Felder	OL	6-5	295	Berwick, PA	Penn State
David Terrell	WR	6-3	185	Richmond, VA	Michigan
Ben Johnson	OL	6-7	310	Brussels, WI	Wisconsin
Ryan Pickett	DL	6-3	290	Zephyrhills, FL	Ohio State
Ed Drummond	RB	5-11	175	Pittsburgh, PA	Penn State
Kenny Peterson	DL	6-4	255	Canton, OH	Ohio State
R.J. Luke	TE	6-3	232	Aurora, IL	Penn State
Derek Ross	DB	6-1	190	Rock Hill, SC	Ohio State
Eric Rickenbach	OL	6-5	300	Sewell, NJ	Penn State
Cato June	DB	6-0	195	Washington, DC	Michigan
Julius Yeast	DE	6-5	280	Harrodsburg, KY	Ohio State
Larry Foote	LB	6-2	215	Detroit, MI	Michigan
Jonathan Wells	RB	6-2	220	River Ridge, LA	Ohio State
Antoine Harris	RB	6-1	205	Bolingbrook, IL	Illinois
Aaron Kampman	LB	6-4	235	Kesley, IA	Iowa
Craig Albrecht	DL	6-5	290	St. Louis, MO	Northwestern
Steve Bellisari	ATH	6-3	210	Boca Raton, FL	Ohio State
Josh Thornhill	LB	6-3	240	East Lansing, MI	Michigan State
Ryan Van Dyke	QB	6-6	215	Marshall, MI	Michigan State
Walter Cross	RB	6-0	200	Oxen Hill, MD	Michigan



# the recruiting report

## BIG 12 CONFERENCE

1. **TEXAS** Mack Brown is a masterful recruiter who is very smooth in the home of any recruit in any part of the country. His first Texas class included only Lone Star State natives.
2. **NEBRASKA** Three national titles in four years can get the attention of any recruit in the country.
3. **COLORADO** The Buffs are usually regulars in the national top 10 recruiting classes. This class is not as strong as former groups, but talent still abounds.
4. **OKLAHOMA** John Blake knows 4-8 will not get the job done in Norman. However, the only way to change that record is to continue to recruit well and put together another solid class. This effort may have been Blake's best to date.
5. **MISSOURI** The Tigers' most successful season in recent years led to a very good recruiting campaign.
6. **OKLAHOMA STATE** No one signed a better quarterback-to-wideout combination than OSU. Quarterback Matt Holliday is the nation's top prep player.
7. **TEXAS A&M** This class was limited to 16 scholarships, and small classes in terms of numbers usually are not top 20-caliber. But this one is an exception because it is a very solid group and has several key headliners.
8. **KANSAS STATE** This is a small class in terms of numbers, but needs were met. Kansas State hit the JUCO ranks very hard and came away with an outstanding group.
9. **BAYLOR** Dave Roberts found out quickly that playing catch-up is difficult in a good league. He needs more classes like this one to get the program back on track.
10. **KANSAS** Terry Allen needed more offensive weapons in his arsenal and this class went a long way to help.
11. **IOWA STATE** The Cyclone staff signed 17 JUCO prospects.
12. **TEXAS TECH** The Red Raiders tied one arm behind their backs when the school limited the scholarship number to 15 in accordance with an NCAA investigation.

## BIG 12 TOP 25 PROSPECTS

NAME	POS	HGT	WGT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
Matt Holliday	QB	6-5	210	Stillwater, OK	Oklahoma State
Montrell Flowers	WR	5-10	175	Dallas, TX	Texas
Antwan Kirk-Hughes	OL	6-4	297	Waxahachie, TX	Texas
Ben Gay	RB	6-1	217	Spring, TX	Baylor
Lawson Giddings	WR	6-3	185	McAlester, OK	Oklahoma State
DeJuan Groce	DB	5-11	185	Cleveland, OH	Nebraska
Mike Clay	LB	6-3	255	Houston, TX	Missouri
Jashon Sykes	LB	6-3	220	Los Angeles, CA	Colorado
Chris Kelsay	LB	6-5	240	Auburn, NE	Nebraska
Trent Smith	TE	6-6	225	Clinton, OK	Oklahoma
Vance Smith	QB	6-5	225	Grand Prairie, TX	Texas A&M
Justin Smith	TE	6-5	230	Jefferson City, MO	Missouri
Lee Jackson	DB	6-4	190	Longview, TX	Texas
Victor Ike	RB	6-0	190	Austin, TX	Texas
Frank Murphy	RB	6-1	205	Callahan, FL	Kansas State
Rocky Calmus	LB	6-4	215	Jenks, OK	Oklahoma
Chip Ambres	QB	6-1	180	Beaumont, TX	Texas A&M
Demoine Adams	LB	6-3	220	Pine Bluff, AR	Nebraska
Adam Dunn	QB	6-5	238	Porter, TX	Texas
Justin Smith	DE	6-5	240	Sherman, TX	Nebraska
Frank Romero	DL	6-5	240	Moore, OK	Oklahoma
Neal Colzie	QB	6-1	160	Miami, FL	Missouri
Troy West	LB	6-4	205	Bradenton, FL	Oklahoma State
Dale Hall	DB	5-9	170	Miami, FL	Kansas State
Ja' Mar Toombs	RB	6-1	235	Kilgore, TX	Texas A&M

## BIG EAST CONFERENCE

1. **VIRGINIA TECH** The Hokies are a consistent New Year's Day squad now, and their recruiting efforts are beginning to get more recognition. This class is similar to past Hokie classes in that it has a great deal of depth.
2. **SYRACUSE** This is not the typical top-20 class the Orangemen are used to, but this group is still very talented. Syracuse went after skill players, including a very deep group of defensive backs.
3. **MIAMI** This is the first full allotment of scholarships Burch Davis has had since his arrival at Miami. The Hurricanes improved their overall talent level and team speed. They also met their needs very well.
4. **PITTSBURGH** Prospects are eyeing Pittsburgh. This Panther class is like a breath of fresh air. This is a large group in terms of numbers that was helped with the addition of a great group of JUCO talent.
5. **WEST VIRGINIA** The Mountaineers pulled off another good class and one that will be recognized for its strength on the line of scrimmage. Like many West Virginia classes, this group includes several key players from the state of Florida.
6. **BOSTON COLLEGE** The Eagles never have been mistaken for a recruiting powerhouse in the Big East, but each year they do sign some impressive names at the top of their list. This year's edition is no different.
7. **RUTGERS** Whenever a coach is trying to rebuild a program, he should try to bring in as many newcomers as possible to get a new attitude in town. The Scarlet Knight staff accomplished this mission with 27 new players added to the roster with the latest class.
8. **TEMPLE** The Owls are a tough sell on the gridiron. Bobby Wallace's recruiting efforts will get better when he has a chance to showcase what his new program is all about. This class was put together at the last minute after he was hired late in the process.

## BIG EAST TOP 25 PROSPECTS

NAME	POS	HGT	WGT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
Mike Rumph	DB	6-2	190	Delray Beach, FL	Miami
Mike Vick	QB	6-2	190	Newport News, VA	Virginia Tech
Jake Houseright	LB	6-4	222	Gate City, VA	Virginia Tech
Howard Clark	LB	6-2	215	Pennsauken, NJ	Miami
Maurice McClain	DB	6-1	170	Elizabeth, NJ	Syracuse
Brandon Williams	RB	6-0	205	Arnold Valley, PA	Pittsburgh
Lavaar Scott	LB	6-2	225	Sebring, FL	Miami
Osa Nosa	DL	6-2	300	Homestead, FL	West Virginia
Jerome Ledbetter	LB	6-2	210	Jersey City, NJ	Boston College
Lee Suggs	RB	6-1	195	Roanoke, VA	Virginia Tech
Brian St. Pierre	QB	6-4	185	Danvers, MA	Boston College
Lamar Sturdivant	DB	5-10	180	Woodbury, NJ	Syracuse
Amir Purifoy	LB	6-2	220	Homestead, PA	Pittsburgh
William Joseph	DL	6-5	265	Miami, FL	Miami
Eric Downing	DL	6-4	290	Patterson, NJ	Syracuse
Keith Burnell	RB	6-0	195	Chesapeake, VA	Virginia Tech
David Tyree	WR	6-2	190	Montclair, NJ	Syracuse
Sean Berton	TE	6-5	220	Greensburg, PA	West Virginia
Tavaris Jackson	DB	6-3	195	Delray Beach, FL	Virginia Tech
Andre Brinson	RB	5-9	170	Tallahassee, FL	Syracuse
Brad Cusick	TE	6-3	245	Marlton, NJ	West Virginia
Dan Murphy	OL	6-6	265	Dedham, MA	Boston College
Ron Moore	DL	6-4	290	Patterson, NJ	Syracuse
Todd Sievers	K	6-3	200	Akeny, IA	Miami
Damien Jamison	TE	6-5	230	Jersey City, NJ	Rutgers



# Overtime?

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